

"MRS. HARRIS'S" REFLECTIONS.

No. 2.—ON CHARACTER.

I'VE allus mentaned that there is three kinds o' carackter, namely, Good, Bad, and Indifferent.

The first I prefers best, and the last I cares for the least. When a man or a woman is good they are good, and when they is bad—well, there! they're dreadful; but then you knows which is which if you 'ave only two sorts to deal with. What puzzles me and most folks is the indifferent persons. They generally wears shiny cloth clothes and looks awful good — butter-melting sort o' men and wimmin, who support your view and opinions, and then borrows something. They has low soft voices, and speaks quite smooth like; they takes away your reputation—that is if you've got any, and there's nothing else convenient which they can lay their hands on. They has no determinashun, and is constantly on the move. A man or a woman with an indifferent carackter is always to be shunned, and Shakespeer says, "Such as these are never at heart's rest, and therefore is dangerous."

GENERAL AND PERSONAL.

IN Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft's book "On and Off the Stage" occurs the following anecdote. Mr. Bancroft once complimented Dr. Quain on the light and cheery manner which made him almost welcome in any sick room. "Ah!" replied Dr. Quain, "I began quite the other way." He had been cured by a friend, a physician of eminence, who had taken him to see a patient who was dangerously ill. Dr. Quain was putting on a mask of professional gravity, when his friend started, and whispered, "For mercy's sake, don't look like that, man, or the poor soul will think you are the undertaker!" He never forgot that lesson.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, at the recent public meeting held at the Mansion House on behalf of the London Hospital, said that there are 644 in-patients in the wards, attended by a staff of 230 nurses, making a total of 870 persons to be provided for; and this was a state of things which had increased considerably during the past five years.

OWING to the continued presence of small-pox in Sheffield, the War Office has given orders that the men of the Fourth (Militia) Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment shall not assemble for training this year.

MISS FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.—We greatly regret to hear that this estimable lady is almost entirely confined to her room, and is compelled to describe herself as a permanent invalid.

SELECTIONS.

"EVERY woman may be, as we are often told, a born nurse; but every woman has not been educated in habits of patient and careful observation, and it is especially to develop such-like qualities that a course of training is required."—*Dr. Herbert R. Mosse, in "Popular Papers on Practical Nursing."*

"THE sense of sight is so valuable—the variety, extent, and importance of the knowledge it affords us so much greater than that conferred by the other senses—that its loss, or even impairment, is always acutely felt. Young and old, rich and poor, are equally interested in its preservation, for its failure places the sufferer at the mercy of others, renders him more liable to accident, more open to deception, and as a rule unfits him for the discharge of the active duties of life, or at least enables him to perform them only at a great disadvantage to the rest of mankind."—"The Eye and Sight," by Mr. H. Power.

"EDUCATION has wholly ceased—or at all events is ceasing—to be mere cramming of facts into pupils' minds, to the consequent over development of memory and the neglect of active powers of mind; and it is now recognised that it must not simply store members, but induce faculties; and simultaneously that physical powers and functions require also a general education of their own."—*Dr. Clement Dukes, in "Health at School."*

"By means of what is called tactile sensibility we obtain knowledge of extent, form, properties, and position of objects, enabling us to test information gained from other sources. For instance, a child sees a particular object, and stretches out its hand to touch or grasp it; touch verifying or modifying the impression of distance gained by sight. When an object is pressed gently on the skin the nerve filaments are stimulated, and the result is what we call the sense of touch, or pressure."—*Mr. Malcolm Morris, in "The Management of the Skin and Hair."*

WHAT TO READ.

MR. AND MRS. BANCROFT ON AND OFF THE STAGE. Written by themselves.—R. Bentley & Son.

SIXTY YEARS A MODEL. By Mr. Dwight Benton.—*American Magazine* for April.

THE UNION OF TONGUES.—*Spectator*, April 14th.

THE NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SNOBBERY.—*Public Opinion*, April 13th.

COURAGE. By the Rev. Mark Guy Pearse.—*The Methodist Times*, April 5th.

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