

to boys, also militates against the progress of women gifted with musical genius; but, in the opening of the doors of several of the universities mentioned above, some few years ago, with equal privilege of graduateship in all faculties, to female as to male candidates, the chances of qualification in every branch of art are becoming more equalised for the sexes.

We regret to say that the old-world disbelief in the professional woman musician is not quite yet a thing of the past; witness the fact that many parents still consider a few "finishing" lessons from a fashionable "master," no matter how indifferent or careless he be, a necessary completion of the musical education of their daughters. Still more flagrant and unreasonable also is the prejudice, unhappily indulged in by many from whom we look for more generous sentiments, that often debars the thoroughly trained woman organist from having as good a chance of a fitting church appointment as her more fortunate brother performer; in which connection we would merely say that from her innate devotional nature, her inherent power of child-training, and notably her tact in the avoiding and quelling of the only too frequent "choir jealousies," there is no presence so apt and influential in the organ

loft as the earnest, devoted and fully-qualified choir-mistress.

There is no doubt, however, that a just appreciation of women's work in the sphere of the professional musician is only a matter of a few more decades; and meanwhile the conferring of musical degrees upon them by the universities has even now given those few who have already utilised the privilege a status that it is impossible to dispute; and it is with a view to encourage more girls to avail themselves of university distinctions that the writer, who may claim some experience in the matter, would hereupon urge all of her sex so disposed (and especially should it be the case with those who wish to fulfil high and responsible positions in the musical world) to qualify for a University Degree in Music.

It may be desirable to mention that, in the matter of examination fees, the expenses range from £10 to £30 or £40 at the different universities, but these do not cover the necessary expenses of preparation, the purchase of books, etc. However, with care and economy, especially with the facilities granted to students by our public libraries and *conservatoires*, and the number and variety of classical concerts held yearly at popular prices, the

amount of money to be spent upon a musical education need not fall too heavily upon a limited income. A little self-denial in the matter of dress, and perhaps the giving up, during the period of study, of even a few of the amusements and distractions over which we often spend more time and money than we are aware of, will soon provide funds for the comparatively small outlay which is involved by entrance upon a collegiate career.

The amount of space already occupied by the present article precludes the possibility of giving some hints as to plans of study in preparation for a university course; but perhaps at some future time there may be opportunity of treating this matter fully. The main point to be borne in mind in connection with musical, as with all other work is that courage and perseverance, with a worthy and lofty aim in view, are bound to succeed in the end, whatever be the nature of the task or the difficulties to be overcome.

Given, however, the capacity for endeavour and the determination to do nothing short of one's best, excellent results must ensue, especially if all work is undertaken, not so much in order to gratify personal ambition, as to utilise to the utmost those gifts which come to us from the Giver of all good things.



"THE KING'S DAUGHTERS": THEIR CULTURE AND CARE.

By LINA ORMAN COOPER, Author of "We Wives," etc.

PART IV. IN SICKNESS.

IN a former series of papers I gave advice of how to treat our girls in the infantile dangers that beset their earliest years. Croup, convulsions, dysentery and thrush were fully treated of in June 1897. This month we go a little further and encounter greater lions still. At the door of the beautiful ivory palace of health, however, stands one "Watchful." He calls to every guardian of the King's daughters, as he cried to the pilgrim of old, "Fear not the lions, for they are chained, and are placed there for trial of faith where it is, and for discovery of those that have none. Keep in the midst of the path and no hurt shall come unto thee." Yet, though we may be well assured that no good thing will be hidden from us and our children, yet sickness is "a very narrow passage" indeed. There is sometimes room "to turn neither to the right hand nor the left." Well for us if our eyes are open enough to see that the Angel of the Lord is standing here, and can bow our heads resignedly (Num. 22). The lions too only guard the Palace Beautiful—the Palace Beautiful of health or the beautiful abiding place of death.

Perhaps of all the childish diseases we dread

most, whooping cough stands pre-eminent. I have been told by one of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the day, that where other sicknesses slay their thousands, this giant slays its ten thousands. It must at all times be looked upon as a serious disease. The slightest attack of it must be a source of uneasiness to the friends of children. The insidious nature of its approach; the duration of its visit, make it one of the most dreaded scourges of young life.

I am not going to enter into a diagnosis of whooping cough. Any medical book will tell us far better how to recognise and deal with it than I can do; but I do want to warn all readers of these papers never to trifle with this disease. "Only whooping cough" is the bewraying expression of one utterly ignorant of its effects on delicate nervous childhood. The complications are so numerous. Bronchitis, inflammation of the lungs, convulsions, tubercular disease and diphtheritic croup, are often set up and established during the course of this disease. We should, therefore, watch minutely for any wheezing, any heat of the mouth, any spasmodic movements of face and head, any enlargement of brow and forehead, any sore throat. A good doctor should be in charge of every case of even simple pertussis. The disorder is now considered to be almost

purely a nervous one. The whole nerve centres are deeply involved. Any sudden rebuke, sudden or rapid movement; anything which irritates the child, is sure to bring on a fit of that brazen, terrible, convulsive coughing. So we should be very tender with our little girls during the weeks and months this disease may last, soothing them more with caresses and encouragement than by giving them any of the quack medicines advertised as specific in this illness. Chloral, chloroform, chlorodyne, opium, are all more or less skillfully employed in calming the paroxysms of whooping. They should only be given, however, by qualified practitioners. All mothers can do, is to bind flannel round the upper part of the sufferer's chest, to rub back and spine every night and morning, to quiet and calm the child, and to see she has plenty of digestible, nourishing food. It is in the sequelae we women can help our daughters so much. Their liability to fall into bad states of health after whooping cough must never be lost sight of, and we should surround them with every hygienic arrangement. Tidman's salt in their daily tub, if a sojourn at the seaside is impossible. Plenty of milk and cream if staying in a farmhouse cannot be arranged. Out-of-door exercise if we cannot take them to live for a while in pinewoods or on a hillside.