

The Oldest Drama.

“It fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers. And he said to his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother. And . . . he sat on her knees till noon, and then died. And she went up, and laid him on the bed . . . and shut the door upon him, and went out.”

Immortal story that no mother's heart
 Ev'n yet can read, nor feel the biting pain
 That rent her soul! Immortal not by art
 Which makes a long-past sorrow sting again

Like grief of yesterday; but since it said
 In simplest word the truth which all may see,
 Where any mother sobs above her dead,
 And plays anew the silent tragedy.

JOHN MCCRAE, in *The University Magazine*.

Varicose Ulcers.

The following has been used with great success in cases of varicose ulcers: The patient is put to bed for two or three days, then the leg is shaved and scrubbed and zinc oxide powder applied; if ulcer is large, put an extra layer of the powder and gauze over it; then paint leg with the following: White gelatine, 150 parts; zinc oxide, pulv., 150 parts; glycerine, 250 parts; distilled water, 450 parts; and apply bandage, then the paint again until there are three layers of paint and two of bandage. Take temperature, and if it is normal do not disturb for two or three weeks. This splint is found to be most comfortable (and to far surpass any elastic stocking), and the patient may go around his ordinary work without its being injurious, as long as there is no temperature.—*The Canadian Nurse*.

The Borderland of Disease.

There is a growing tendency on the part of medical men to recognize the pathological importance of certain, at present, little understood conditions of the blood. Some of these indeterminate deviations from the normal present none of the aspects of the anemias, but nevertheless bear a direct relation to increased susceptibility to bacterial infection. The studies of Wright on the opsonins, so called, are of special interest in this direction, inasmuch as they have in a measure converted many of our abstract theories into concrete facts. That certain constituents of the blood may be diminished without apparent decrease of the corpuscular elements or of the hemoglobin, is at last fairly well established, and while the specific properties of these constituents are not as yet definitely known, there is abundant reason for attributing certain phases of malnutrition, as