

as necessary for acquiring a complete knowledge of her profession. Once instil into women the fact that what is required is *thoroughness*, to make all branches of their work worthy, and that this can only be obtained by concentration of purpose and infinite patience, and we shall soon cease to sigh over the shortcomings of the half-trained woman; for it is not only in nursing the sick that half training is found to be so terribly disastrous—it is the canker in the whole system of woman's up-bringing and education. Our *average-going* woman—what are her acquirements? A smattering of a dozen things; perfection in none. She can neither converse *intelligently*, read eloquently, nor write half-a-dozen consecutive lines *grammatically*. Why? Simply from this deplorable lack of concentration of purpose. Ah! that *thoroughness* was the chief characteristic of our sex, rather than the reverse! I once heard an old hospital sister remark with pride, pointing to her ward nurse—"She's an uncommon sharp gal, is Agnes. I've only had her *seven years*, and I've *larned her to be a nuss.*"—MATRONA.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—If you have room in your valuable paper, I wish you would print my letter. I am one of a large staff of nurses, and many of us would like Miss Mollett to know how *braced-up* we feel after reading her papers, and encouraged to try and improve ourselves.  
A NURSE.

To the Editor of The Nursing Record.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Will the Editor of *The Nursing Record* kindly inform Maud if there are any hospitals where girls are admitted as probationers in their nineteenth year? She would be much indebted for the names of any.

May 11th, 1888.

### VACANT APPOINTMENTS, WANTED, &c.

NURSE (Assistant).—Salary £20.—Apply to the Lady Superintendent NATIONAL HOSPITAL, Queen's Square, Bloomsbury.

NURSE.—Salary £25.—Apply, Lady Superintendent, NATIONAL HOSPITAL, Queen's Square, Bloomsbury.

NURSES (Two) in Private Home for Invalids.—Apply, Lady Superintendent, Oakfield, Forest Hill, S.E.

PROBATIONER.—Salary £18.—Apply to the House Surgeon, DENBIGHSHIRE INFIRMARY, Denbigh.

PROBATIONER.—Apply to the Matron, VICTORIA COTTAGE HOSPITAL, Wimborne, Dorsetshire.

WANTED.—Permanent Home for Paralyse Gentleman. Night attendance necessary. Must be W. or N.W. district, London. Inclusive terms, £1 5s. per week.—Mrs. Windus, 34, Devonshire Road, Hastings.

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COMFORTABLE refined Home for Invalid, in house of lady with varied experience in mental and other cases. Medical references.—Mrs. Fenwick, The Elms, Upper Mall, Hammersmith.

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A Book of the value of One Guinea will be awarded for the best Essay on—

"Describe the relative positions of the Sister, Staff Nurse, and Probationer, and what their hours of duty and work should severally be in a properly organised ward of thirty beds."

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1.—Contributions must reach the Editor, at the office of THE NURSING RECORD, not later than June 9th, 1888, addressed as follows, "Prize Essay Competition, THE NURSING RECORD, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C."

2.—Manuscript must be written distinctly in ink, and on one side of the paper only, upon not less than 24 or more than 30 pages of ordinary-sized ruled sermon paper. The pages must be numbered and fastened together.

3.—The real and full name and address (stating whether Miss or Mrs.) of the Competitor must be inscribed on the back of each contribution, and notification of which hospital or institution the Competitor has been or is attached to.

4.—Trained nurses or those personally associated with nursing work only allowed to compete.

The decision of the Prize Essay Editor to be final, and any infringement of the above rules will be considered a disqualification.

NOTICE.—The Prize Essay Editor will not undertake to return MSS. unless accompanied with a sufficiently stamped addressed envelope. In no case must manuscripts be rolled up when sent by post; they must be folded.

### — NOTICES. —

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Books, Pamphlets, &c., for Review, &c., must be addressed to the Editor of the NURSING RECORD, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C. The Editor will not undertake to return rejected MSS. unless accompanied with a sufficiently stamped addressed envelope.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be strictly adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

Communications from all parts of the country are cordially invited, and liberal arrangements are made for reprints of original articles, and for such illustrations as serve to increase their value or interest. Reports of Nursing Vacancies, Appointments, Meetings of Societies, &c., and Newspapers, &c., containing (marked) accounts of matters of local or personal interest or importance, will be gladly received. Correspondence upon all subjects associated with Nursing specially invited.

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