to the upper classes as well, many of whom do not desire nor require the constant presence of a nurse night and day, which, in the case of large families and crowded households, is often a great inconvenience.

As there is now so large a number of ladies trained as nurses, seeking, I believe, in vain for posts in institutions, I venture to direct their attention to this

hitherto unexplored field of work.

May I add one word as to the term "grand lady"? It is our experience that it is the lady—educated and refined, and thoroughly trained—who is able and willing to do the lowest offices, does not require to be waited upon, and who never uses the word "menial" for any task assigned to her.-Yours faithfully,

84, Palace Gardens Terrace, Louisa Twining.

Kensington, June 9th.

## To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,-I should like to tell "Sister Mary" how I manage to keep window plants in a hospital ward fresh and healthy, in spite of iodoform and carbolic. When I see signs of drooping, I look for the reason, and find perhaps the tiny green fly on the leaves, which if not removed will soon kill. It can be removed by frequent washing, or better still by tobacco smoke. Very often I find the plant pot-bound, and a worm at the root. If pot-bound, I give a larger pot and more mould. Ferns I give a shady window and plenty of water. Once a week I put all mine in the large bath, deep under water, and let them soak for some hours.

Hahnemann Hospital,

SISTER AGNES.

Hope Street, Liverpool,

### To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,-Can you tell me the names of any books on nursing or illnesses, &c., to study before I begin nursing? I hope in a few months to go to one of the London hospitals as a probationer, and in the mean-time think I might learn something by reading, if you will kindly tell me what books would be most useful for me to study.—Yours truly,

June 7th, 1888. [See Miss M. C. Lock's letter in our issue of the 7th.—*Ed*.]

## VACANT APPOINTMENTS, WANTED, &c.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT for the HULL SANA-TORIUM.—Salary £70.—Applications to be sent on or before June 27th, to the Medical Officer of Health, Town Hall, Hull.

WARD SISTER.—Salary £30.—Applications to be sent to R. G. Kestin, Secretary, ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN, Waterloo Bridge Road, S.E., not later than June 25th.

NURSE.—Salary £22.—Apply to the Hon. Secretary, MILLER HOSPITAL AND ROYAL KENT DISPENSARY,

NURSES.—Salary £30.—Apply by letter only to the Medical Superintendent, NORTHERN CONVALESCENT FEVER HOSPITAL, Winchmore Hill, N.

TO NURSES.—WANTED IMMEDIATELY, at the NORTHERN CONVALESCENT FEVER HOSPITAL, Winchmore Hill, N. Nurses (those who have had hospital training preferred), at wages of £30 per annum, rising to £36 per annum, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Candidates (who must not exceed 35 years of age) are to apply by letter only, enclosing copies of recent testimonials, to the Medical Superintendent at the Hospital. Selected candidates will be written to.

# COMPETITIVE PRIZE ESSAY.

THIRD COMPETITION.

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

"Describe, in full detail, a scheme of Diets for the Nursing Staff of a Hospital."

#### RULES.

-Contributions must reach the Editor, at the office of THE NURSING RECORD, not later than July 26th, 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.

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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.

The Nursing Record is published every Thursday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Railway Bookstalls, and of the principal Newsagents in London and the Provinces.

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