

scheme, nor have one of the statements we have made upon the subject been contradicted or even questioned. We contend, therefore, that upon every ground we have fulfilled our task. We have proved, with patient criticism, that Mr. Bonham-Carter's pamphlet really supports, and furnishes additional proofs of, the necessity of Registration. And in leaving the subject, we would once more iterate the hope which we expressed when commencing to discuss it—that we may have been successful in convincing a most honourable and straightforward opponent of Registration, that his views upon the matter are erroneous, feeling confident that if we have done so, he will evince the large and open-mindedness he is so well known to possess, and range himself on our side, as one of the most powerful possible advocates for the establishment of a General Register for Nurses.

### CHEAP PHILANTHROPY.

THIS is a quality which has existed, in some form or other, from the earliest times. But it seems to be peculiarly rampant now-a-days, and like a certain person spoken of in ancient times, the Cheap Philanthropist goeth about seeking whom he may devour, so that he may obtain public applause or personal advantage. Hospitals and their belongings have always received the greatest consideration from true benevolence. It is therefore to be expected that sooner or later these institutions, and their officials and inmates, will be seized upon by the spurious Charity-monger as an uncultivated hunting-ground. For it must be remembered that, whereas true Charity "seeketh not her own" advancement and credit, false Charity seeketh nothing else. And, therefore, some apostle of that creed, Mr. Cheap Philanthropist to wit, may sooner or later be expected to appear, if indeed he has not already done so, within Hospital precincts. The first recorded member of the family brought Eve into sad trouble by his most specious expressions of desire for her welfare, to be obtained, however, by her own efforts. And, curiously enough, from that day even unto this, people have been offered similar advantages, but obtainable only in similar fashion and by the loss of all they possessed. It is clearly important, therefore, for all to clearly understand the character and habits of the Cheap Philanthropist. His description is, as an old writer cleverly puts it, "the extreme opposite of true charity. He doth vaunt himself, he is puffed up, he doth seek his own—yea, and much more than his own—he doth behave unseemly; he is most easily provoked;

he rejoiceth not in truth, he thinketh much evil. He never keepeth silence about himself, but ever announceth what he hath done for others, which is perchance but little; and also what he intendeth to do, which is verily much. And herein hath he a great security, for the person of true benevolence is ever reticent, and, if it be possible, so worketh that his left hand may not know the good that his right hand doeth. So cometh it, that by his much talking he persuadeth the unwary that he hath by his bounty wrought the good that quiet charity hath brought to pass. Of a truth it is passing strange to find, when the matter be investigated, that the man that hath made the most ado hath himself done nothing. That he hath builded with other men's bricks a building, which he calleth after his own name, but he hath himself added unto it no single straw." We have an idea that this type is still extant, but as it must be evident to all that such an individual as the Cheap Philanthropist will only work for his own benefit, it behoves all Nurses, should they ever come across such a person, to give him the widest possible berth.

### HINTS TO NOVICES IN PRIVATE NURSING.

By MISS E. MARGERY HOMERSHAM,  
*Lecturer for the National Health Society.*

#### I.—HOW TO TREAT THE PATIENT AND THE DOCTOR.

EVERY Nurse going to a private case for the first time feels acutely the strangeness of her position. This feeling wears off in a short while, and she is apt to forget, then and on future occasions, that these first experiences are not less strange to patients and their friends, and that this very strangeness gives her an opportunity to implant, by gentle firmness and quiet attention, the respect and confidence, which constitute authority.

When entering on her duties the Nurse must begin by making as few alterations in existing arrangements as possible, effecting absolutely necessary changes quietly, and expressing no surprise, even at any, to her Hospital-trained mind, flagrant deficiencies. If she is possessed of the necessary tact for this branch of the profession, she will easily acquire complete control of the sick room in the course of a few days, or it may be even in a few hours. A Nurse who enters a private house, with any intention of turning the sick room into a Ward, and treating the patient as she would be obliged to do if he were one of many, takes an erroneous view of her position, and, however competent she may be in other

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)