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CORRESPONDENCE

(Notes, Queries, &c.)

** We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents. Brevity and conciseness will have first consideration. See Notices.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I have read with little surprise the letters in your Journal from the Nurses who have been forbidden by their Matron to become members of the British Nurses' Association, and as it is an open secret in

Nursing circles in which Hospital this tyranny is exercised, it will not be long before the matter must be brought to the notice of the governing body, who, I feel sure, cannot be aware of this abuse of power on the part of one of their officials. I have been a member of the British Nurses' Association for some time, and have lately resigned my position in the above mentioned Hospital, and feel very strongly with my late colleagues that it is exceedingly unjust that they should be deprived of all the advantages which are offered to the members of this excellent association. It is insupportable that the Nurses of one of the largest Metropolitan Hospitals should not be permitted to judge for themselves in this matter, as the Nurses in the majority of other Nursing schools have been; and that they can neither by right of membership attend the course of lectures to be delivered by the leaders of their profession, nor meet old friends at the Conversazione, nor enjoy any of the numerous advantages which will naturally accrue to an organised professional body of women. No Matron has any right-especially from motives of a purely personal nature—to use, or rather misuse, her authority on such a question.—Yours faithfully,

JUSTICE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir.—As a sufferer from scarlet fever, from the effects of which I have never entirely recovered, I write to thank you for the publicity which your Journal has given to that most excellent institution, the Mary Wardell Home for Convalescents after Scarlet Fever. I and several members of my family had the misfortune to occupy rooms at the sea-side, which had previously been occupied by a patient convalescing from this most dangerous disease, and who had not informed the landlady of the fact. Owing to this gross and unprincipled action, I and two of my children, who were thus exposed to infection, caught the fever, and endured long weeks of suffering and great expense. I am told on good authority that fever has been taken in precisely the same way, by other lodgers at the sea-side, where convalescents naturally go for change of air, and where either they or the landlady have not been sufficiently conscientious to have the rooms effectually disinfected, before letting them to fresh inmates. I consider Miss Mary Wardell's Home is a national blessing and convenience, and it ought to be widely advertised and supported.—Yours truly, Rose Henderson.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,-Miss Pincoff's article in last issue expresses a want which I, for one, have long felt.

There is a large class of refined and educated people of limited incomes, upon whom rates and taxes fall heavily, and from whom many voluntary subscriptions come.

We do not begrudge the poor the advantages of our Charitable Institutions, but do we obtain for our own friends the skill and attention we procure for them?

Many mechanics earn 40s. to 50s. per week (exceptions, not the rule of course); have no appearances to keep up; use our Hospitals, Dispensaries, District Nurses, and other such institutions, and yet do little to support them.

On the other hand, many clerks and others receive less, have to keep up appearances, pay rates and taxes, previous page next page