

MISS EDITH ELLEN LEWIS :—

First lay them in a dish containing one part of liq. potassæ to ten of water, and let them soak for three hours; then remove them and place them under running water. Next place them in strong twenty carbolic solution for an hour; lastly wring them out and keep in stoppered bottles.

MISS EMILY SANDERSON, M.B.N.A. :—

First of all well rinse the sponges immediately after the operation in hot water containing one part of carbolic acid to twenty of water, till the water shows no discoloration from blood; then leave them to soak for the night in a solution (hot) of carbolic acid and water of the same strength, viz., one in twenty; next day thoroughly dry and put away. Some use perchloride of mercury (one in five hundred) in the same way.

MISS EMMA DAVEY :—

Wash them thoroughly in one in forty carbolic, and leave them in carbolic until required again.

MISS ALICE ROBSON :—

Soak and wash the sponges with strong soda and water; next disinfect with perchloride of mercury (one part to two hundred water), then hang up in bags to dry.

MISS SARAH ARTHUR :—

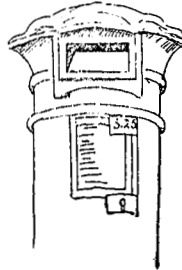
The best and most simple way to clean sponges: dissolve common washing soda in hot water; soak the sponges a short time; well squeeze them about in it; afterwards well rinse several times in clean warm water.

MISS EDITH REYNOLDS :—

The best method of cleaning sponges after using for surgical purposes is to place them in a dish containing one part liq. potassæ to ten of water. In the course of three hours remove your sponges, and place them under running water; then transfer to the strong 1-20 carbolic solution, and lastly wrung out and kept in a stoppered bottle which has been rinsed out by boiling water and contains some 1-40 carbolic solution.

MISS SARAH CHILD, M.B.N.A. :—

First place the sponges under a stream of running water (warm); then lay them in a shallow dish containing one part of liq. potassæ to ten of water; then bleach and antisepticise them by soaking them well in saturated solution of hypsulphite of soda. When thoroughly soaked, transfer them to a dish containing muriatic acid, proportions one to thirty of water.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(Notes, Queries &c.)

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

*We shall be happy to answer, as far as we can, all questions submitted to us.*

*Communications, &c., not noticed in our present number will receive attention when space permits*

### BADGE OR NO BADGE.

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

Sir,—Where is "Justitia"? Where the long-since talked-of badge? and why have I chosen to resuscitate the question at a time when the B.N.A. has so much important business in hand? Well, for one thing, I am compelled to write when I can find leisure, however inopportune the time may be, or else not at all; and this is fortunate for Mr. Editor, who might otherwise be inundated with notes on various matters, for I love my pen and am certainly glad to avail myself of the opportunity afforded to Nurses of ventilating their opinions.

"Badge or no badge," was the question; and for lack of opportunity I had nothing to say on the subject. I think, if I remember right, there were as many "ayes" as "nays" in the matter. I did not approve of the suggestion of the simple letters on a ground of silver; it savoured too much of the Y.M.C.A.; and that is, or should be, the prerogative of the members of that body of Christians, seeing that they do such a good work.

Nor did I approve of the brooch, as suggested by another kind correspondent. For one thing, I think jewellery out of place on a uniform, and as we must not leave out our good sisters, who work night and day, and oftentimes with the wail of an helpless infant in their ears, brooches are out of the question, even were they made with safety pins.

The idea I most appreciated was Mr. Editor's—*i.e.*, that of the medal, in gold, silver, and bronze. Strike the medal, and see if every Nurse does not make an effort to show her true colours. Oh, no! we will not have it suspended by a blue ribbon. We think that is another body that ought to be allowed its own colours. We can have the Church crimson or the royal red, and we will wear it on the right breast, so that the little maiden, whose wound does hurt so, may not press her soft cheek against it when Nursie takes her in her arms to comfort her. The only idea I had was to have a shield of white linen with the Association initials in red or blue silk, to be fastened to the arm or the dress; only those who wear washable dresses might find it troublesome. It is not for myself I covet this honour—we poor Private Nurses have little or no time for such matters, having oftentimes double duties to perform but for the hard-working Hospital Nurses, whose lives are quite as nobly spent, and who have quite as much to sacrifice as any Military Nurse.—Yours, &c.,

[Hear, hear.—ED.]

M. M.

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

Sir,—In the number for July 31st of the *Nursing Record* I see a quotation from the *Medical Press and Circular* upon the "Treatment of Hospital Nurses," which condemns the system of putting the Matron in charge of the Nursing staff,

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