

amateur efforts—but in the superintendence of the preparation of the *food* of the patient. It is often so difficult—nay, impossible—for the Nurse to control this matter, and yet what point of nursing is more important to aid recovery than not only *feeding*, but *food*—its selection as well as its preparation? More goes to it to aid recovery than all the drugs in the pharmacopœia. I bring this little matter before the minds of my dear countrywomen in all stations of life to emphasise the fact that there are nursing duties outside the sick room as well as in it, and in childbed nursing, at any rate, one woman should help and comfort another. There may not be so much glorification about it, including red capes and Norman caps, but, to my mind, the mothers of our warriors to be are equally worthy of our regard, and every woman in the house should be a willing helper in the task.

(To be continued.)

NURSING ECHOES.

** All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

I AM greatly indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co., the well-known chemists of Snow Hill, E.C., for sending one of their very neat paper-weight and stationery case combined. It contains a pocket for cards, another for stamps, drawers for pins, pens, and sealing wax, the whole, of course, embellished with

advertisements of their well-known preparations, Lanoline, Kepler Extract of Malt; but this portion of the paper-weight is so neatly and unobtrusively done that the article forms a useful and ornamental adjunct to the writing table. I have not Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome's authority for saying so, but I rather fancy if any Matron or any responsible official of any recognised Hospital, Home, &c., would ask for one on a post-card, I believe the firm would supply it free of charge.

THE *Provincial Medical Journal* of this month has an interesting but sorrowful picture on "Ship Sanitation," being an address by Dr. Leet, delivered at the International Seamen's Congress on the 6th of last month. Here are some of the "revelations."

"OUTWARD PASSAGE.—October 11: Forward Hospital on main deck was taken down at Queenstown, the space being required for mails, &c. October 12: Fracture case; single steerage male passenger. No forward Hospital, obliged to turn the stewardesses out of the large aft Hospital for his admission, the small aft Hospital being occupied with stewards' utensils used in the steerage, there being no cupboards in the steerage. October 16: Case of measles amongst the 'Sisters' in the intermediate. Removed the young girl at once to forward-deck Hospital; absolutely necessary to isolate her away from main deck crowded with 1,082 passengers, and stormy weather with ventilators all shut down; obliged to carry her along the open deck in rain and spray. Why was the aft-deck Hospital removed? (*Vide* letter of July, 1886.) October 17: Measles case. Patient complains of sea getting through forward port and wetting her bed, and the deck of this Hospital is floating with water at pump end. She also says she cannot sleep with the 'pump continually going through the Hospital walls.' The intermediate stewardess cheerfully visits frequently with food, &c., regardless of the seas and rain along the decks.

"HOMEWARD PASSAGE.—October 22: R. B., steerage passenger, drunk and incapable; may fall and break his leg, so remove him to deck hospital, the 'refrigerator man,' M., having to turn out of it and sleep in after small steerage hospital with A. (head steerage steward). No other available accommodation. M. complained to purser of these frequent 'shifts,' and it is much to be regretted that no berth is allotted to this important official. October 27, Annie S., rheumatic fever (temperature 103.4), must be transferred from lower deck room to large hospital, turning out intermediate stewardess, who, for want of berth, I must allow to sleep in the surgery. Mrs. B., steerage stewardess, remaining on in this hospital, and will attend on patient. Married people (steerage passengers), single men and single women were located all together in married compartment, lower deck; as this irregularity occurred on last homeward voyage, it should be noted."

I VENTURE to think that these examples are quite sufficient to show the absolute necessity for legislation upon the subject; and when the woes of Ireland and political opponents' abuse is ceased, we may then have some time given to the hundreds of matters, waiting over session after session, of domestic and sanitary importance. The time is coming undoubtedly when stewardesses

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