



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.

THE BOSTON BUBBLE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—As a Member of the R.B.N.A., I cannot refrain from adding my voice to the general tone of intense disapprobation on the part of your correspondents concerning the recent extraordinary tactics in attempting to pledge the R.B.N.A., as a body, to disapprove of the *Nursing Record*, which has so loyally supported the Association from the very first. I am expressing the views of other medical men, when I say that we look forward to reading the *Record* each Thursday, as we admire its excellent professional tone and straightforward advocacy of justice for Nurses and for the public.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, M.D.

[We thank our much-esteemed correspondent, and many others, for whose kind letters we are unable to find space. The subject must, therefore, now be closed.—Ed.]

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I hope your Nurse readers will take the trouble to read Miss Humfrey's letter, printed in your last issue, more

than once—it is well worth it. Internecine warfare in the ranks of the R.B.N.A. is the only hope of our relentless enemies. So long as we stand *solid* we are safe and sure of success. Let us so stand, in *dogged immovability*, if progress at times be impracticable.—Yours truly, JOHN BULL.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Doubtless there are numbers of your readers who share the indignation of those who have expressed their feelings and sympathy for your dauntless little paper *re* the "Boston Bubble." As an interested outsider, I have watched the struggle between "Bumbledom" and the Nursing rank and file, which has been going on during the last few years, and that Bumbledom in general should object to your "tone" is not surprising. You will not be surprised to hear, therefore, that at two large London Hospitals you can only be read *sub rosa*, "as it would give offence at the office." At one I have heard you described as "an asp," at the second as a "damnable publication," so take heart of grace.—Yours, &c., A HOSPITAL VISITOR.

CO-OPERATION.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I think that every Nurse has a perfect right to do the best she can for herself, therefore if I support your views on co-operation it is not done because I object to the principle. Co-operation, in a sense, there has been for years, and many can acknowledge the advantages derived from the same. But to ask for charity is to do away with the independence of a woman at once. If a Nurse be free from her engagement to the Hospital or Institution which has trained her, and whose merits and faults, be it remembered, she knows, should she not pause before taking up the yoke again in these changeable days?

I trust we are not all smitten with the bitterness of "My

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS of HYGIENE

THE CAUSES OF DECAY OF THE TEETH.

"In the Dental Section, a Lecture was given by MR. HY. SEWILL, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., who said: "Decay is a process of disintegration commencing invariably at the surface of the tooth, and due entirely to external agents. *Acids and Micro-organisms are the active agents.*" Fermentation being due to the action of micro-organisms, bacteria must be considered a prime factor in the Causation of Caries."

DR. ANDREW WILSON, F.R.S.E., in "Health," August 7th, 1891, says:—

"Decay was found to commence most readily in flaws or fissures, and the conclusions drawn from the experiments are, that caries is entirely due to external agents (that is, acids generated from the food particles and germs preying on the weakened teeth.)"

In this connection, it might be well to quote from a Pamphlet issued by the SALVINE CO., about two years ago, entitled, "HOW TO PRESERVE THE TEETH."—Entered at Stationers' Hall.

CAN THE TEETH BE PRESERVED A LIFETIME?—

"It is obvious that if a combination could be employed, which although harmless in other respects, should yet be death to micro-organisms, and be a perfect ant-acid, decay and premature loss of the teeth must be reduced to a remarkable extent."

"The obstacles preventing so desirable a combination were to a great extent due to the difficulty of combining many apparent irreconcilable elements."

"We are, however, now happy to state that as a result of the patient experiments of a well-known Dental Surgeon during a period of several years, this preparation has at last been completed."

The above remarks are corroborated, as follows:—THE LANCET, November 29th, 1890, Extract from "Analytical Records," reports:—

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