



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.

HOME OF REST FOR NURSES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I have lately been an inmate for a few weeks of the Nurses' Home of Rest, 12, Sussex Square, Brighton, where I hear upwards of ninety Nurses have spent their holidays since last May, and I cannot refrain from making public my gratitude to all those who have arranged this beautiful homely place, where Nurses can go without any trouble; and more especially I want to make known the fact how warm is the welcome, kindness, and consideration each individual Nurse receives from the Sister in Charge. In the few months she has been there she has gained the grateful affection of many, and is known as the "Shepherdess," so gentle and considerate is she for all her "lambs." There is a mistaken notion amongst Nurses generally (I know there is amongst those of my acquaintance) that the Home is open to Members of the R. B. N. A. only. I inquired from Mrs. Bedford

Fenwick, and she tells me "it has been instituted for the reception of all Nurses in active work, Matrons, Sisters, or Nurses who are tired or in need of rest, and that its benefits are not restricted to any particular class." The Nurses' regular holiday season is now drawing to a close, but No. 12, Sussex Square will be open all winter (and indeed from now up to Christmas is the Brighton season, as the climate is sunny and delightful until the east winds begin to blow in spring), and doubtless as there will now be more room, Sisters working in London who are granted leave of absence once a month from Saturday to Monday, cannot do better than spend it at this most home-like of Homes.—Yours, &c.,

ONE OF THE LAMBS.

ENDURANCE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I think it is Matthew Arnold who writes, "All truths are not to be told." Can you wonder at our Hospital Matrons objecting to the "tone" of the *Record* when they read "Letters from Life—No. 1"? Do you not think such *exposés* dangerous reading for an already censorious public, and likely to inculcate a hypercritical spirit in young Nurses? An immense amount of twaddle has been written about Trained Nurses during the last few years, since penny semi-nursing papers have become the fashion, and is doing them incalculable harm as a class. Where is that despised, yet magnificent virtue, "the spirit of endurance," for which Hospital Nurses were wont to be so famous? Vanished with the beer and "buffalo" which used to be the chief of their diet. Grown women cannot exist upon pap and spoon food, any more than true nursing—most arduous of labour—can flourish on sentiment. Good Mr. Editor, if you are going to improve your paper, as you hint in last week's "Echoes," will you preach endurance, patience, singleness of purpose, and loyalty to the coming generation of Nurses? All that appertains to *esprit de corps* is sadly deficient in their ranks at present.

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