

I should be glad if Miss Kenealy would tell me in confidence who it was that uttered this remarkable sentiment, for I think it would be a charity to have the poor fellow well looked after, so that as Hamlet says of Polonius, he should 'play the fool nowhere but in's own house.' The type of Bob Sawyer was extinct long before the 'lady Nurse' came upon the scene; and at the present day the influence which, more than anything else, softens the manners of the medical student and does not allow them to become ferocious, is the fear of the examiner, which is always before his eyes."

Now I do not in the least object to the criticism offered on the article by Mr. Morris. He has a perfect right to his own views, but it is unwarrantable journalism for him to deliberately put on my sister, Dr. Arabella Kenealy, the responsibility of *an article written by me*. It is extremely difficult to understand how the error arose, since the article in question was signed Annesley Kenealy, *in very large capitals*. With regard to the sentiment expressed by one of our greatest surgeons, who said, "The lady Nurse has exorcised the brute element from our wards," I shall have the greatest pleasure in giving his name to Mr. Morris. He has been President of the College of Surgeons, and is a man of the greatest professional eminence. The sentiment which I quote has also been cordially confirmed by another very eminent surgeon, who knew Bob Sawyer as he was, when "the lady Nurse" began to exorcise him.

Faithfully yours,

ANNESLEY KENEALY.

A LIFE AWAKER?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I shall be much indebted to you, or to some of your readers, for an explanation of the above term. I was looking out for a holiday resort, when I came across the advertisement of a popular Hydro, which set forth the advantages and resources, from a health point of view, of sea baths, douches, Russian sprays, massage, and a "life awaker." My brains are considerably exercised on the matter, and I search for light. Is this some mysterious contrivance for rousing energy and vitality to the exhausted frame, or is it an American cocktail of the genus sometimes dubbed as a "corpse reviver?" The latter explanation is the more puzzling, as I have always been led to believe that a rigid use of cold water, both externally and internally, is the rule of Hydros.

Sincerely yours,

PUZZLED.

SUGGESTIVE THERAPEUTICS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I have been keenly interested in hypnotism—or, as it is termed in the Nancy School, "Suggestive Therapeutics"—and last autumn I was lucky enough to be passing through Nancy on my way from Switzerland. A friend—a doctor who practises hypnotism in London, and who learnt under Dr. Liébeault, who was the originator of "vocal

suggestions"—kindly gave me an introduction to Dr. Liébeault and also to Professor Bernheim.

Dr. Liébeault, a dear, kindly old man, was very glad to explain his method to anyone who would take an interest in it.

After I had seen him I went on to Professor Bernheim, who had promised to show me his clinic. I already knew something about him, as I had his book on "Suggestive Therapeutics." I called at his house, and found that he had already started for the Hospital, where I quickly followed him. My visit was a very hasty one, so that I had hardly time to observe much in the way of arrangements.

Everything struck me as so perfectly clean and hygienic. Being a Roman Catholic place, the Hospital was nursed by "Sisters," and I suppose the cleaning was done by charwomen; but I only saw one or two Sisters, and it must be quite impossible for them to manage everything alone.

The Hospital is a very large one, and I had endless corridors to pass through and steps to mount before I found my Professor. At last I reached the ward, and sent in my card, and he sent out word would I come to him. I am a very shy person, and it really was a trial to walk down that long ward. He was at the last bed, with about thirty men. Uniform, excepting the Sisters' flapping draperies, is unknown, and I felt I was an object of curiosity. The Professor was very kind, and said he would be glad to show me whatever I wished to see—so I followed with the students. Fortunately for me they had arrived at the last male bed, and we went to the women. What struck me as very odd was that there was no Sister or Nurse to receive orders, or report cases. The patients answered the questions, and apparently received instructions as to treatments—unless the student repeated them to the Sister in charge, or carried them out himself.

A few patients were hypnotised, but not deeply, and it did not seem to be of much importance whether they responded to the suggestion or not. The Professor was very rapid, and we passed quickly from case to case. I know abroad that decency is not much considered in examining patients, and here I was horrified when I saw the Professor throw back the bed-clothes, and then the night-gown, over the patient's face, so that the poor women were absolutely nude, before all these men; and in many cases the Sisters did not come to the bedside.

I saw a very interesting case of palsy. She had been hypnotized several times before, and was almost cured. The moment she began to shake she was told "It is forbidden to shake," and she stopped. She was made to go through various stages to show me how deep was hypnosis. I had already seen a good many cases in England, so that was not altogether new to me. It was unfortunate, too, that my time was so limited—and it was such a passing visit—or I am sure in that wonderful old university there is much to be seen, and much that could be copied in our Hospitals—and there is much that they might copy from us. They might learn to look on patients as men and women, and not as subjects only—but that will be only when the French cease to be French.

At any rate I had the honour and satisfaction of shaking hands with two men who had worked so hard and so successfully for this branch of therapeutics.

TRAINED NURSE.

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