

"Can man be free while woman is a slave?"

The words find echo meet
On lips of England's working women brave
Who come their Queen to greet
We come from factory, workshop, and from loom
To keep thy Jubilee;
And we, the women slaves, from slavery's doom
Ask but to be free.

DORA B. MONTEFIORE.
(Weekly Sun).

WHAT TO READ.

"Lyrics of Lowly Life," by Paul Laurence Dunbar.
"The Song-book of Bethia Hardacre," by Ella Fuller Maitland.
"Labour in the Longest Reign (1837-1897)," by Sydney Webb.
"God Save the Queen!" A Tale of '37, by Allen Upward.
"Miss Tudor," by Mr. Le Breton.
"Nulma," an Anglo-Australian Story, by Mrs. Campbell Praed.
"A Nineteenth Century Miracle," by "Z. Z." (Louis Zangwill).

Coming Events.

July 31st.—Princess Henry of Battenberg lays the foundation stone of the new block of the Royal National Hospital for Consumption, at Ventnor.



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.

ATTENDANT AND OTHER SERVANTS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—The following advertisement appeared in the last issue of a contemporary:—

"Attendant, used to lifting, and strong, for invalid lady with rheumatism. Age 30 to 40. No night work, to help in housework; two other servants; three in family."

It would be interesting to know what answers are received to this advertisement, and why it is inserted in a journal which is professedly a professional one.

Yours truly,
TRAINED NURSE.

"INFAMOUS AND BLACKGUARDLY."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I have just seen this morning's issue of the *Star*, in which Dr. Bezly Thorne actually describes the language which he used at the recent Council Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association as "called for." Hitherto I had supposed that Dr. Thorne used these words because he had lost his temper; now it appears that he deliberately employed them as "a rebuke." To call any statement made by a colleague "infamous and blackguardly" may be usual amongst those with whom Dr. Bezly Thorne associates, but educated gentlewomen are not accustomed to hear language such as this used in their presence; and when so used resent it as an insult to themselves. Is it to be wondered at that they, therefore, decline to be associated with the present management, or to attend meetings of the Association when language of this sort is employed, and is actually permitted from the Chair.

The fact that Dr. Thorne attempts to defend the use of "Billingsgate" language in a women's Association, and that he sits on the Executive Committee, on the General Council, on the Registration Board, and on various other committees of the Association, is no doubt one of the reasons why these committees are so unrepresentative of nursing interests. The fact that Dr. Thorne considers that any circumstances would justify the use of such disgraceful language would be a convincing proof, to my mind, of the wisdom of any body of women who objected to be associated with him. It must finally be remembered that it was upon the initiative of Dr. Bezly Thorne that the policy of breaking the pledges of the Association to those matrons who founded it, was adopted in 1895.

I am, Madam,
Yours faithfully,
MARGARET BREAY.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—With its usual courage the NURSING RECORD has acquainted the public with the fact— withheld by the Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association in her official report to the Press of the proceedings of the last General Council Meeting—that Dr. Bezly Thorne used language at that meeting, chiefly of women, which no self-respecting bargee would have used. We members of the Association who are at a distance, and cannot attend the meetings, and who, therefore, are often in the dark as to the contradictory statements made concerning the fierce fight which now rages in our Association, owe you a deep debt of thanks for showing us the type of medical men who have captured the power in our Association, and who are dragging it in the mire. Since reading the report of the last General Council Meeting, we can easily appreciate the indignation of educated nurse members at being subjected to such language in debates in their governing body, and it is no wonder that the matrons refuse any longer to attend such gatherings. I feel sure numbers of nurses will agree with me that Dr. Bezly Thorne's resignation is the only reparation he can make us for his insults.

Yours truly,
A LATE MEMBER OF GENERAL COUNCIL.

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