

**Coming Events.**

*May 14th.*—The Queen visits Netley Hospital.

*May 18th.*—The Duke of Cambridge attends a dinner given by the Lord Mayor in aid of the London Hospital.

*May 19th.*—The Duke of Cambridge presides at the annual dinner in aid of the North London Hospital for Consumption, at the Hotel Cecil.

Afternoon concert at Bridgewater House in aid of the fund for the Jenny Lind Infirmary for sick children at Norwich.

*May 20th.*—The Duke of Leeds presides at the anniversary dinner in aid of the Earlswood Asylum, at the Hotel Cecil.

*May 24th.*—Royal British Nurses' Association. Special General Meeting of Members of the Corporation at the Rooms of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 20, Hanover Square, W., to pass the new Bye-laws.

*June 15th & 16th.*—First Annual Conference of the Matron's Council at the Medical Society's Room, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. Morning Session, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Afternoon Session 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to members free. To non-subscribers, 3/- for the whole Conference, or 1/- for each session.

**Letters to the Editor.**

NOTES, QUERIES. &amp;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.*

**SUNSTROKE.**

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

DEAR MADAM,—I was much interested in the article on Sunstroke which appeared in your valuable journal last week. Having lived in the tropics I am, of course, familiar with this kind of illness. I cannot understand quite, however, that sunstroke can be entirely an infectious disease, as in this case it would surely occur amongst residents in countries producing the bacillus, wheth er they were exposed to the heat of the sun or not; whereas, experience goes to prove that sunstroke and sun fever are the direct and immediate consequence of unwise exposure to the rays of the sun. That the fact that the bacillus has been inhaled may predispose to sunstroke is quite possible, but I do not think you would ever find a case occur in a person who stayed indoors in a properly constructed house during the heat of the day.

The fact which you quote that the Chinese can expose their closely shaven heads to the hottest sun, without ill effect, to my mind proves the undoubted fact that nature has endowed tropical nations either with thicker skulls than those which are resident in temperate climates, or with some power of resistance

which these nations do not possess. For instance, a negro can safely expose his head to the direct rays of a tropical sun, which would be certain death to a European under the same conditions. Do the tea planters of Assam expose themselves to the sun without adequate protection? I should imagine that they wear sun hats, and probably protect their spines into the bargain, in which case they are able to defy the effect of the sun's rays to a great extent.

I am, dear Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
WANDERER.

**PRIVATE NURSES' HOURS OFF DUTY**

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—“Mater Familias” must have been rather unfortunate in her experience of nurses—if she finds that those she has met leave their patients for “some hours” without leave. I feel sure the majority of private nurses stick very closely to duty; but a rule on the subject might be advisable.

Yours,  
A PRIVATE NURSE.

DEAR MADAM,—I quite agree with “Mater Familias” that some printed rule with regard to nurses leaving their private cases is much needed. I also have had some disagreeable experience on the matter. Last year I had a nurse from one of the co-operations—who was very well connected—she brought with her a huge box of elegant costumes, and during her fortnight in my house took herself off (in yellow muslin) to the wedding of a friend, being absent from 11 a.m. till 5 p.m., without leave. She also went to the theatre, and “received” friends, in my house without permission. At the same time she was a pleasant lady-like girl—trying evidently to kill two birds with one stone, to have a good time, and nurse the sick. In my opinion it can't “be did.” Trained nurses should take their relaxation between their cases, and give themselves up to their work when “on duty.”

Yours truly,  
ANOTHER MOTHER.

**THE CHARTERED NURSES' SOCIETY.**

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

DEAR MADAM,—It may interest you to know that during this last winter Miss Ethelred Jackson has given cases to nurses, who are neither registered nurses nor members of the R.B.N.A., and in reply to calls received at the offices of the Chartered Nurses' Society. I presume the Committee of that Society have authorised this proceeding, but considering many members of the R.B.N.A. in private nursing are short of work, it appears to a member simply outrageous that Miss Jackson is permitted to undermine the influence of the Association by giving work to unchartered nurses, and I think you will agree with me.

Yours,  
M.R.B.N.A.

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