

## Sketches.

### SMIRCHING THE PROFESSION.

At Bloomsbury County Court a lady, the proprietress of a nursing home, told Judge Bacon that she wanted to make an application.

Judge Bacon :—"What, again? Would you not save your temper and your time by staying at home?"

Applicant (smiling) :—"I should never lose my temper with your honour. (Laughter.) I want an injunction to prevent that man distraining on me."

Judge Bacon :—"He is your landlord's agent, is he not?"

Applicant :—"Yes, he has a spite against me, as you know."

Judge Bacon :—"I only know he wants you to pay your rent."

Applicant :—"So I do when I can, but he puts the brokers in. I work very hard. I have a lot of trouble and a paralysed mother to keep."

Judge Bacon :—"But he cannot tell his employer, 'I know this young lady is a hard-working woman, she has a lot of trouble and a mother to keep, and will pay when she can.'"

Applicant :—"Then I cannot have the injunction. What can I do to keep him out?"

Judge Bacon :—"Pay the rent when it is due, then you won't have the brokers."

Applicant :—"They do me a lot of harm. The nurses talk about it all over the place, and it makes my position worse than ever. They do gossip."

Judge Bacon :—"Surely you are not going to accuse your own sex of gossiping? Do women bear tales?" (Laughter).

Applicant :—"Oh, yes they do; though I am a woman myself. And certificated nurses are the very worst gossips in the world. I have had to deal with them all my life, so I know." (Laughter).

Judge Bacon :—"Perhaps so. They have to cheer the long weary hours of their patients. So they regale them with all the little pleasant scandals they do know, and when their memory fails they invent them." (Laughter).

Applicant :—"Then I can have no protection here?"

Judge Bacon :—"No, miss; I cannot help you."

Applicant :—"I am only a week beyond my time, and he puts a man in. Can you not grant an injunction if you really try hard?" (Laughter).

Judge Bacon :—"I cannot prevent your landlord exercising his legal rights."

Applicant :—"That's like the men all over. There is one law for the men and quite another for the women."

Judge Bacon :—"Do not leave the court labouring under that delusion. (Laughter.) The law weighs no more heavily upon women than men."

It is true women have not the franchise as yet, but they have every other privilege a man has—and a good many more in addition." (Laughter).

Applicant leaving the court :—"It is very hard I should be persecuted like this."

We beg to inform Judge Bacon that there is no delusion that men and women are not equal before the law. We don't want *privileges*, we want *legal status*, and the power which legal status gives for self-government. Trained nurses have no legal status. If they had the power they would take some justifiable means to prevent their profession being smirched almost daily in the police courts.

## Appointments.

### MATRON.

MISS AGNES M. JACKSON has been appointed Matron of the Acton Cottage Hospital. Miss Jackson was trained at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, and subsequently at the London Temperance Hospital. She afterwards worked at the Hospital for Women, Soho Square, and for the last two years has been engaged in private nursing. Miss Jackson is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and a registered nurse.

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



Those who were privileged to be present at the Queen's visit to Netley on Saturday last will not soon forget the scene. The gracious act of Her Majesty in taking the long journey from Windsor to Netley to visit those of her soldiers who have been invalided home from the Indian frontier, will remain an abiding memory with the men, and we do not doubt will nerve and inspire them for the performance of heroic deeds in the future.

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The hospital, needless to say, looked its best, every effort having been made to render its appearance worthy of the great occasion. The wards were bright with spring flowers, and the pictures sent by the Queen after her last visit adorned the walls. A much appreciated addition to the furniture of the wards are the four invalid-chairs presented by Her Majesty, which have proved a great boon to many of the invalids.

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