

any Hospital official to turn any in-patient into the street, there to await the casual care of the police. So we can only hope that this case will be a lesson to those who have brought by their mismanagement so much adverse criticism upon the London Hospital. As Chairman, Mr. Holland is in a position to enforce such regulations in relation to the discharge of patients that such a "mistake" will be impossible in future.—ED.]

WHY NOT MALE NURSES?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—The reports in the papers of the case of a patient behaving indecently before the nurses in a ward of the London Hospital, must have been very shocking to the feelings of many parents who have daughters working as nurses. I own I felt horrified that young women training for this great profession, should run such a risk, and as it was proved at the inquiry that the man died of softening of the brain, and was not, therefore, let us hope, entirely responsible for his actions, surely first of all there should be sufficient isolation rooms in our great hospitals, to which such patients can be removed, and certainly on each hospital staff there should be a certain proportion of male nurses, whose duty it should be to attend to dangerous (D.T.) dirty, and irresponsible male patients, no women should be called upon to attend to such cases. In the leading American hospitals there are a sufficiency of male nurses and attendants employed, and why are our English hospitals so slow to adopt this necessary reform? I read the discussion in your valuable paper on the training of male nurses in the summer, and there was plenty of evidence forthcoming that men have no facilities for efficient training in any of our big general hospitals. It is quite time the Governors of these institutions followed the excellent example set them in the States, and thus made it impossible for such an outrage on common decency as the London case to recur.

I can sympathise with the London officials desiring to rid themselves of this patient, under the circumstances, but is it not true that the nursing is done by female nurses at the Whitechapel Infirmary, as well as at the London Hospital? It is high time the male nurse question was dealt with.

Lt. COL.

NURSES MANNERS.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Your expression of opinion in answer to "M. D.'s" questions in last week's issue was highly satisfactory, and I hope may be taken to heart by your readers, as it appears to me the lack of a good professional manner in the sick room, is not altogether the fault of the nurses. In the smaller hospitals doctors and nurses are on much too "chummy" terms, and discipline in many of the larger training schools has greatly relaxed of late years. In those hospitals where the Matrons have still the moral courage to enforce good discipline, and etiquette, the medical staff have much to be thankful for.

Yours,

A MERE H. P.

[We approve the sentiments of this H. P.—ED.]

MATRON AND SECRETARY.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—In many hospitals there is a Sub-Committee consisting of three or more members of the General Committee who visit the hospital frequently, and are responsible for its internal management, and have a general supervision over its affairs. This Sub-Committee invariably meet once a week, and the Matron can then submit her demands, which, if necessary, are brought before the General Committee at its next meeting. There need be no clashing between the Matron and Secretary, and I am sure that the latter would always be pleased to advise and assist the former in all matters pertaining to the well being of the Institution. Yours, SECRETARY.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE MEN.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—You always advance so warmly the interests of women in the NURSING RECORD, that I venture to address to you a letter not upon nursing matters, but upon one in which I feel sure I shall have your sympathy and support. We have all of us waited with extreme interest to hear what proposal will be made for erecting at Khartoum a memorial worthy of the heroic Gordon, and we have now had placed before us the Sirdar's scheme for a Memorial College. First of all, it seems, to those who know that the inspiring force of Gordon's life was his Christianity, somewhat incongruous that the memorial to him should be carefully planned on lines from which all Christian teaching is definitely excluded, but further, on the General Council which has been formed for the control of the fund the names of men appear exclusively, and the College itself is for the education of the sons of chiefs and the fact that there are women as well as men in the Soudan is apparently entirely overlooked. Notwithstanding these facts the Baroness Burdett Coutts urges to the women of England to support the College. Why? What possible grounds can be advanced which will appeal to them?

This exclusion of women from participation in the benefits of civilization is surely unworthy of the greatness both of the Sirdar and his project. We recognise our responsibilities to a conquered foe, but we limit our obligations to one half of the nation. I venture to say that it will be found necessary to admit our duty to the women of the Soudan. I do not base my belief on our sense of justice to women—we have only to look at home to know that justice to women is almost non-existent—but I look at the work of foreign missions abroad, and I see that where that work has been somewhat one sided and work amongst boys has exceeded that amongst girls it has been found necessary for the sake of the men to remedy this grave defect, as otherwise the supply of women as suitable wives falls far short of the demand; and one of two things happens, either the boy grown to man's estate must remain celibate, or he must take a heathen wife, with the result that the education bestowed upon him, and the teaching he has received is probably wasted, and he relapses into barbarism.

For the sake of the men therefore I would appeal to those who are responsible for the organization of the Gordon Memorial College to enlarge its scope, and to include in its benefit the future mothers of the Soudanese people. Yours faithfully, TRAVELLER.

[We have dealt with this subject in another column.—ED.]

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