

Mr. Plowden—There is a great want of logic in your complaint. You bear with resignation stabs with hat-pins, but the mere loss of a coat or a teacup drives you to desperation. Why is it?

Applicant—Because they cost money. It is one continual pay, pay, pay.

Mr. Plowden—Oh, yes; I thought so. You complain of extravagance. I cannot cure your wife of that.

Applicant withdrew muttering, 'Then I'll take the law into my own hands.'

How much longer are we to wait for State Registration? Are trained nurses willing to have their profession dragged into the police courts without trying to guard its honour, and are the public willing to place themselves, and those dear to them, when ill, in the hands of a woman who is a "good nurse," but who does not hesitate to fracture her husband's arm with a poker, or to stab him with hat pins?

The St. John's House Debating Society, which is a thriving Association, including past and present members of the House, is, we believe, the only nursing society of the kind. It is managed entirely by the nurses, who have proved themselves most capable of conducting their affairs with credit. Besides the monthly meetings, at which papers on subjects of professional interest are read and discussed, there are two social gatherings in the year, when the members of the society act as the hostesses of their invited guests. They also issue, for private circulation, a "Gazette," which contains in full the papers read in the previous session, and which are valuable as being the outcome of practical observation. The Society is now in its seventh session, and we heartily wish it long life and prosperity.

We beg to acknowledge with gratitude an annual subscription of £5 5s from Mr. Charles C. Baily, of Brighton, for Sir Julian Goldsmid's Home of Rest for Nurses, in Sussex Square.

A sad case came before the magistrates at Bristol last week, when a probationer at the Royal Infirmary was charged with a series of thefts from her fellow nurses, and from the Institution. After the evidence had been heard, Mr. Inskip, for the defence, asked the magistrates to treat the prisoner as a first offender, taking into consideration her previous good character and her respectable parentage.

The Bench said it was a very serious charge, and it had been a painful matter to them to have to investigate it. It was not a single theft, but a series of thefts which had been going on for some time, not from one person but from several. They would deal with her as leniently as they could, but she would have to go to prison for six weeks as a second-class misdemeanant.

The Dowager Countess of Longford is appealing for subscriptions in money to purchase comforts for the nurses in South Africa, to be sent to Lady Katherine Pakenham, at 24, Bruton Street. We do not doubt that the intentions of these ladies are most kind, but we must confess that we are weary of being held up to the public, as a profession, *in forma pauperis*. Surely it is the business of the Government to provide everything that is necessary for the nurses in South Africa. We do not hear of subscriptions being raised to provide our officers with comforts, and it is to our mind equally unsuitable to appeal to the public on behalf of nurses.

The *Johannesburg Gazette*, of April 10th, publishes the following letter from a correspondent at Krugersdorp:—"I happened to go to the cemetery here this (Easter Sunday) morning to see how our poor Tommies' graves are kept, and I can tell you I was surprised to find them all beautifully decorated with fresh flowers, simply magnificent wreaths, crosses, bouquets, etc., of fresh roses, violets, and other flowers. I made inquiries as to who performed this Easter service for our poor fellows, and found that the chief worker was Nursing Sister Yeoman, of No. 1 Stationary Hospital, assisted by Nursing Sister Smallman and Mrs. Capt. Stonestreet. There are 82 graves, including four Jameson Raid troopers, and all were equally beautifully tended. I think it would be some comfort to the friends of the poor fellows to know that even in this far-off land the graves of those dear to them are well tended and cared for, and some encouragement to the good women who tend them so lovingly."

The first training school for nurses among the Filipino women has been opened at Syracuse, New York State, by Miss Mary Macdonald, who is a graduate of the training school at Bellevue Hospital, in New York City, and was appointed as head nurse over a staff of 100 women in the field hospital of the Seventh Army Corps, at Jacksonville, during the Spanish war. Miss Macdonald was afterwards stationed at Havana with a staff of sixty nurses, and subsequently for more than a year acted as head nurse in the Manila Hospital. Her experiment will naturally be watched with much interest by American nurses.

Miss Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in the *New York Journal*, advocates concentration as the keynote of success. "Whenever you have anything to do," she writes, "set your mind upon it, and turn all the forces of your intellectuality in that direction, just as you would turn the radiance of an electric light upon the room when you wish to seek for something." She holds, however,

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