

## Real Conversations.

## ON A LONDON HOSPITAL STAIRCASE.

New Pro. coming down, Matron going up.  
*New Pro.* (cheerfully): "Good morning, Matron."  
*Matron* (stony): "Speak when you are spoken to."  
*New Pro.* (mentally): "Sorry I spoke."  
*Matron* (mentally): "Discipline must be maintained."

## ROYAL VISIT TO INFALLIBILITY HOSPITAL.

*Chairman* (feeling ice-bag on patient's head): "Ah! Just as it should be. I do that, your Royal Highness, to keep the Sister and nurses up to the mark."  
*Royal Princess*: "Really, how wonderful! Poor things, what would they do without you? But haven't you a Matron?" (Sister smiles.)

## IN A PRIVATE NURSING HOME.

*Eminent Abdominal Operator* (looking at chart): "You took the temperature regularly every two hours?"  
*Private Nurse* (been on duty forty-eight hours): "Oh! certainly, Sir. Surely I did not omit to note it?"  
*Patient* (meaningly): "Oh! no, you didn't forget that."  
*Eminent Operator* (loftily): "If all's well, you may nap to-night."  
*Patient* (pleadingly): "Oh, doctor, please order her to keep one eye open."  
*Eminent Operator* (bustling off): "Very well, very well." (Closes door with a bang.)  
*Private Nurse*: "Oh, I say, you nearly gave me away that time."  
*Patient*: "Cruelty to animals, that's what I call it—but I wish you didn't snore!"

## A SCRAP OF PAPER.

*Superintendent Private Nurses' Co-operation*: "Where were you trained?"  
*Nurse*: "At St. Minerva; I have a three years' certificate."  
*Superintendent*: "Have you practical experience of gynæcology?"  
*Nurse*: "Gynæ what?"  
*Superintendent*: "Do you not know what gynæcology means?"  
*Nurse* (pertly): "We didn't call things by them gimcrack names in our hospital; our doctors didn't approve of us nurses knowing too much."  
*Superintendent* (politely): "Why not go and be trained?"  
*Nurse* (amazed): "Trained! Why, I've got a three years' certificate, I tell you."  
*Superintendent*: "Good morning. It is a pity you did not get knowledge at the same time."

## NURSE'S EXAMINATION.

*Susceptible Surgeon to Matron*: "Weak in physiology, but anatomy first-class. I shall debit ten extra marks to those two jolly black eyes."

## OVERHEARD IN THE PARK AT ANTI-CHINESE MEETING.

*Gal*: "Death to the Yaller Labor; death, I sy."  
*Hooligan*: "Yo go 'ome and mind the biby."  
*Gal*: "Bless yer—it's just died o' starvation—didn't seem to thrive some'ow on rice watter and hopium. Yah!"  
*Hooligan*: "There's 'lip' for yer." (Spits.)

## 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.*



Miss Helen Cameron, whose portrait appears on the following page, is the Matron of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, and a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. She entered St. Thomas's Hospital for training in 1896, and remained there for four years, during which time she obtained a varied experience. In October, 1900, Miss Cameron was appointed Sister at the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, N., and in February, 1902, Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Warrington, a post which she resigned in 1903 on her appointment to the position she at present holds. Miss Cameron is interested in all nursing questions, and is a warm supporter of the movement for the State Registration of Nurses, and is a member of the Society for obtaining this reform. From her earliest years she has been associated with sick people and devoted to them. When quite a small child she lived in the West Indies, and was accustomed to the sick coolies who would come to her father's house saying, "Me berry sick, Massa; gib me some of de sweetie mixture; me hab de feber too bad." Even at that time she used to wish to be a nurse, or, perhaps, a doctor—a desire which found its fulfilment many years after.

We learn that after this year the London Obstetrical Society will no longer hold examinations for midwives, as this duty will then devolve upon the Central Midwives' Board. The Obstetrical Society has in the past done good service in this connection, which would have been still better had it seen its way to require of candidates not only evidence of capacity as midwives, but of that general knowledge which is an essential basis of thorough work in special branches. Nevertheless, the Obstetrical Society came forward to do work which needed doing, and which but for it would for many years have been left undone.

Nurses holding the L.O.S. certificate who wish to register as midwives must do so before March 31st, 1905, otherwise they will have to submit themselves for examination by the Central Midwives' Board before they can be registered.

We are glad that the Bristol Guardians have decided to grant three weeks' holiday in the year

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