

reporting their resignations; why have they resigned? We ought to know.

In regard to your remark, "It is the custom of the latter paper" (the *Nurses' Journal*) "not to anticipate but to publish events in their actual sequence," I do not understand. Either these things have occurred, in which case they should have been reported, or they have not, when they should at once be *officially* denied.

I am, yours faithfully,

MARY BURR.

To the Secretary,  
Royal British Nurses' Association,

I then received this acknowledgment:—

10, Orchard Street, Portman Square, London, W.  
April 21st, 1906.

DEAR MADAM,—I am instructed by my Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, which were laid before them yesterday.

I am, yours truly,

ANNIE J. HOBBS, Secretary.

To Miss Burr,

In the current number of the *Nurses' Journal* there are two short paragraphs evidently intended for those of us, myself included, who object to the present methods of the Editorial Committee, they run thus:—"We have also had letters suggesting what we should or should not publish in the *Nurses' Journal*. We must (and we say it with all courtesy) reserve to ourselves the universally acknowledged Editorial rights, which in this case appertain, not to an individual, but to a committee specially appointed for the purpose."

"Also, we would like to mention that whatever communications may be sent to the office must be officially considered before, in any sense, they become public property. We do not publish any Association news which has not been subjected to official consideration, otherwise the *Nurses' Journal* as an official organ of the Association would become valueless."

This seems to me *officialism*, and I have sent the following letter to point out that I, at least, do not consider such an appointment confers the right of censorship:—

May 12th, '06.

To the Editorial Committee of the *Nurses' Journal*.

SIRS,—In regard to the two last paragraphs of the Editorial in the current number of the *Nurses' Journal*, may I be permitted to suggest that few members of the Royal British Nurses' Association were aware that in appointing an Editorial Committee for their journal they were practically bestowing upon that Committee the ownership of their paper.

For, as I understand your Editorial, no member may express any opinion in the organ of her Association without the consent of the Editorial Committee, which, I believe, was appointed to *arrange* for publication all matter connected with the Association and its members, *but not for the purpose of Censorship*.

I believe that all those nurses who are doing similar work for other societies of nurses edit on the principle of the nurses' journals for the nurses. If

this is not done the Editorial Committee become virtually owners without the necessary expense of ownership, whilst the members must submit to censorship unless their opinions coincide with those of the Editorial Committee, notwithstanding that the Association funds pay for the journal.

Presumably this will also not be published.

I am yours faithfully,

MARY BURR.

[Thus all Miss Burr's letters have been excluded from the official organ of the Association of which she is a member. The chief use of the *Nurses' Journal* appears to be to delude the members—the whole thing is a scandal.—Ed.]

## Comments and Replies.

X. Y. Z.—We are unable, from the information supplied, to determine the word you want. Was the electric battery used in connection with the limb referred to? If so the word is probably "Anode," the positive pole through which the current leaves the battery, and a term applied by Faraday to that part of the surface of the electrolyte or decomposing body which the electric current enters—the part immediately touching the positive pole. If this does not help you why not write to the photographer, who would be able to give you definite information.

Miss K. S.—If a flannel binder is used, it is not necessary to use a second one if the infant's back flannel is securely stitched. Some authorities are now discarding the mother's binder, but most private patients prefer it, and, provided it is washable and frequently changed we do not think any objection to its use has been raised. The best binder in our opinion is a straight length of roller towelling, fitted to the patient each time it is applied by means of laundry pins.

## Notices.

### THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain a Bill providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses will find an application form on advt. page vi., or can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

### CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this Journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

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

### OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page viii.

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