

teachers, though few of these are equal to their opportunities. Much could be done with a Sunday School class by laying stress on the Divine Immanence, and the necessity of keeping the physical vehicle pure.

To meet the special needs of the parents I suggest that booklets should be written in language within the comprehension of the fourth standard of elementary schools. The term should be denunciatory of evil habits, and should point out the advantages to parents and offspring of a clean and self-controlled mode of living. If the Eugenic Society could publish such literature, and make cheap or free grants to those willing to distribute it amongst cottage parents, it might bear sufficient fruit to create a healthy public opinion, which would attach disgrace to those parents who refused to conform. The axiom that pain is the only teacher applies literally to the more undeveloped types of humanity. They will never turn to a higher manner of life through sheer love of righteousness. The evil must hurt them before they will relinquish it. In this district, as in many others, the idea is firmly established that for all which befalls—particularly the births and sufferings of the children—Providence alone is responsible. To teach the parents that they suffer from themselves is the very first necessity. As long as one acquiesces in the former view, and nearly all orthodox workers amongst the poor do acquiesce, the attempt to raise the standard on this subject will be hopeless.

I am heart and soul with the Eugenic Society, but as a humble student of sidereal philosophy I venture to assert that so long as the Society ignores or denies the importance of planetary influences in the initial stages of human generation, so far will it fall short of realising its highest aims. "There is a time for all things." The old Greeks knew this, and by bringing themselves into harmony with the laws of generation they achieved a perfection of human forms which is beyond our attainment unless we follow their methods.

I am, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

A STUDENT OF CAUSATION.

[For the information of correspondents, "A Student of Causation" is a woman, who does not care to reveal her identity, as the subject under discussion is one of general interest.—Ed.]

#### THE RIGHT OF THE DESTITUTE SICK.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—Surely the first right of a sick person is to have fresh, clean, healthy air to breathe, and the system of overcrowding the Paris hospitals prevents this first essential of hygienic environment. Overcrowding brings in its train every form of disorganisation, and in consequence, where wards are overcrowded, first class nursing is impossible. The patients in such wards don't get a chance of comfort and good recovery, and run the risks of infection and death. The cubic space in sick wards allowed to each patient should be made compulsory by law. I speak from the experience of evils where overcrowding was per-

mitted, as a past nurse in the Ruchill Hospital, Glasgow, and I was horrified when visiting French hospitals.

Yours truly,

C. F.

#### THE IRISH OFFICE BLUNDER.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—Now that we Irish nurses have the assurance that we are going to be included in the benefits of the Nurses' Registration Bill, is it permissible to ask why we were ever left out? There can be no excuse that our Irish Office and the Dublin Castle Executive were not aware of the opinions and aspirations of Irish nurses on this burning question, because every publicity has been given to them in our lay and professional papers. It surely is a scandal that the members of a skilled profession like ours should be treated like useless idiots when questions of legislation concerning our work and lives are under consideration. Our services are being utilised for the benefit of the community more and more every day, and we are being urged without ceasing by the Women's Health Association to come forward and help stamp out tuberculosis. Indeed, we have been told this can't be done without our aid, and yet we are to be ignored in a body on a question of such vital importance to us as the regulation of our work by the State. Although we have compelled the Irish Office to recognise our rights, it will be many a long day before the contemptuous treatment we have received is forgotten. I should like to thank Miss Dock for crossing swords on our behalf. It was cheering to know that our affairs were of interest to colleagues across the Atlantic.

Yours truly,

KELTIC.

#### NOTICE.

An application form for those who wish to become members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will be found on page iii. of cover. It will soon be too late to help on the important work of this Society. No habitual reader of this journal can, we feel sure, be content to stand aside and let others found the great Profession of Nursing. Now is the time to help.

#### Notices.

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

All those desirous of helping on the important movement of this Society to obtain an Act providing for the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses can obtain all information concerning the Society and its work from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

##### OUR PUZZLE COMPETITION.

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

All competitions must be addressed to the Editor, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

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