

COMPETITIVE PRIZE ESSAY.

A BOOK of the value of One Guinea will be awarded for the best Essay on—
"What Constitutes an Efficient Nurse."

RULES.

1.—Contributions must reach the Editor, at the office of THE NURSING RECORD, not later than May 5th, 1888, addressed as follows, "Prize Essay Competition, THE NURSING RECORD, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C."

2.—Manuscript must be written distinctly in ink, and on one side of the paper only, upon not less than 24 or more than 30 pages of ordinary-sized ruled sermon paper.

3.—The real and full name and address (stating whether Miss or Mrs.) of the Competitor must be inscribed on the back of each contribution, and notification of which hospital or institution the Competitor has been or is attached to.

4.—Trained nurses or those personally associated with nursing work only allowed to compete.

5.—The decision of the Prize Essay Editor to be final, and any infringement of the above rules will be considered a disqualification.

NOTICE.—The Prize Essay Editor will not undertake to return MSS. unless accompanied with a sufficiently stamped addressed envelope.

WHAT TO READ.

CONSTRUCTION OF HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES. A communication by Henry Tomkins, M.D., Medical Officer of Health, Leicester.—*Lancet*, March 31st.

HEAR ALL SIDES. A communication by Charles R. Drysdale, Senior Physician, Metropolitan Free Hospital of London.—*Echo*, March 28th.

MARGINS.—*Globe*, March 22nd.

THE MAKING OF HEROINES. By C. M.—*Reflector*, March 31st.

WOMEN AT WORK.—*Lady's Pictorial*, page 332, March 31st.

NURSING AS A PROFESSION FOR WOMEN. By H.R.H. Princess Christian.—*Woman's World*, April.

RESTFUL WORK FOR YOUTHFUL HANDS. By S. F. A. Caulfield. (London: Griffin, Farran & Co.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

** We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents. Brevity and conciseness will have first consideration. See notices over first page of matter.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR, —Nurses and nursing matters are at present engrossing a larger share of public interest than they have ever received before. It is but right that they should do so, and I would predict, for several good and sufficient reasons, that this public interest will increase and extend. For instance, nurses now-a-days are utterly different from what they were twenty

or thirty years ago. Sairey Gamp and Betsey Prig, of immortal memory, have vanished, and in their places stand gentlewomen of good birth and high education, large-hearted, soft-voiced, and gentle-handed, doing woman's noblest work, being "ministering angels" to the sick and the suffering. And coincidentally the art of nursing has advanced by leaps and bounds to be universally recognised as a skilled calling. I hear on the best authority (that of *The Lancet*) that the leaders of the medical and nursing world are joining hands with the firm determination that from henceforth nursing shall be a legally constituted profession. For the sake and welfare of the public I rejoice to hear the news. It has confirmed me in a belief, which I have held for many months, that the time has fully come for nurses to have an organ of their own in the English Press. The vast importance of the profession (as I will at once call it) of nursing to the medical men and to the general public, makes it essential that nurses, like the members of every other profession, should possess a journal absolutely and entirely devoted to their own interests. Because it is only through the press that they can give articulate voice to their views and their wishes; that they can with united strength guard their interests; that interesting and important professional intelligence can, week by week, be circulated throughout the United Kingdom, which would otherwise remain locally buried; that the strongest possible bond between British nurses the wide world over can be formed and kept and strengthened. Therefore, especially welcoming your publication, I am, Sir, yours truly and obliged,

A NURSE.

VACANT APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.—PADDINGTON GREEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LONDON, W.—Applications before April 10 to G. W. Empson, Esq., Hon. Sec.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.—VICTORIA HOSPITAL, BURNLEY.—Salary £28.—Apply to the Matron.

PROBATIONER.—BURTON-ON-TRENT INFIRMARY.—Salary £8.—Apply to the Matron.

HEAD FEMALE ATTENDANT.—DUNDEE ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Salary £10.—Applications to Dr. ROBE, West Green House, Dundee, N.B.

HEAD NURSE.—DERBYSHIRE GENERAL INFIRMARY.—Salary £25.—Apply to Mr. MARWOOD, the Infirmary, Derby.

TRAINED NURSE.—ROCHDALE INFIRMARY.—Male Surgical Ward, salary £22.—Apply to the Matron.

SISTER.—RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, OXFORD.—Salary £30.—Apply to the Matron.

LADY MATRON.—BOURNEMOUTH SANITARY AID ASSOCIATION.—Apply to the Hon. Sec., Cross Hale Lodge, Bournemouth.

SUPERINTENDENT OF NIGHT NURSES.—SHOREDITCH INFIRMARY.—Salary £30; also TWO ASSISTANT NURSES, Salary £17 to £20.—Apply to the Matron, 204, Hoxton Street, N., 9 to 11 a.m.

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