

NOTICES OF BOOKS, &c.

*** Will Publishers always kindly append Prices, when sending Publications for Review.

SUGGESTIONS FOR WOMEN GUARDIANS. To which is added, "THOUGHTS ON THE DIET OF NURSES IN HOSPITALS AND INFIRMARIES." By Louisa Twining. London: John Bale & Sons, 87, Great Titchfield Street, W.

Ladies who take an interest in Poor Law, &c.—and all ladies ought to do so—may very profitably spend some time in the perusal of Miss Twining's pamphlet. There is yet much to be done as regards the return of women as Guardians to the Poor Law Boards, particularly to those in the country, and no stone should be left unturned to facilitate the access of suitable ladies to these ranks. There are many questions and points which are continually being brought before the notice of male Guardians which men cannot possibly deal with properly, and we strongly advocate still further agitation for the securing of women's voice and work in the field indicated.

THE PHYSICIAN'S BEDSIDE RECORD. Published by The Plimpton Mfg. Co., Hartford, Conn. Price 50 Cents per Dozen.

Designed by a physician for use in his own practice, for the purpose of keeping a permanent record of the clinical features of disease recorded at the patient's bedside. It comprises a page for the preliminary history of the case; twenty-eight pages for the recording of as many days' observations, ruled one line for each hour of the day, with spaces for pulse, temperature, respiration, medicine, notes of nurse, and directions and notes of physician; following these are three closely-ruled pages for the physician's notes or history of the case; and, concluding, there is a chart for a tracing of the pulse, temperature, and respiration, showing at a glance the variation for each day of the disease. The size of this little book is $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. It is bound in a manilla cover, which is printed with spaces for the case number, date, disease, and name, to facilitate its filing for future reference. We can only say that this "Record" thoroughly carries out the ideas of its inventor, and is a great improvement upon the cards which are generally used for the purposes above indicated. Every practitioner who sees it will purchase it if he is a wise man.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—I have taken your valuable paper from the first number, and have watched with interest its improvement from week to week. I should like to express the gratitude which I know many feel to you for providing the Nursing profession with a journal of their own, where Nursing matters can be discussed by those who understand them, and in which the articles, notes, and other matters are written in grammatical English, and can therefore be read with pleasure by educated women.

There is one matter upon which I have recently been enlightened myself, and which I think should be brought to the notice of your numerous readers—as I find it is not generally known—especially to those

Nurses who live in the country. Few have been able to understand the true cause of the bitter antagonism of a certain weekly paper to the *Lancet* and the *Nursing Record*. It is only just, therefore, that it should be explained that Mr. H. C. Burdett, the promoter of the "National Pension Fund for Nurses," started, and was for some time the sole registered proprietor and editor of *The Hospital*—if he is not still so—which weekly expresses the most roseate views concerning "this noble undertaking," and which resents with so much warmth the, to my mind, fair and courteously expressed criticisms of the *Lancet* and the *Nursing Record* on what appears to them a misnamed, unpractical scheme. I feel sure, as the name of their author becomes more generally known, that the grandiloquent articles which appear in the above-named paper concerning the fund and its founder will be duly appreciated and laughed at. Thanking you for courteously inserting my former letters,—I remain, yours truly,
THOROUGH.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—I see in this week's *British Medical Journal* that it has been called upon "to restore confidence" in the National Pension Fund for Nurses, although the attacks made on the Fund "in one or two quarters are inspired by personal pique"—this alludes I presume to the legitimate criticisms of your paper and the *Lancet*. In my humble opinion there seems no need for paper warfare on the subject; the scheme must succeed or fail on its own merits. But I thoroughly agree with the letter which appeared in your ninth number signed "Thorough," in which it is stated that the Fund is an Annuity, and not a Pension Fund. The name National Pension Fund for Nurses is most misleading to the charitable public, and eminently unfair to Nurses. The scheme is an annuity fund for hospital officials and nurses, and this should be honestly stated; and also the fact, that the premiums are nearly one-sixth less for males than females, should be made quite plain. The evident injustice of this arrangement would prevent me joining the Fund, even if I had the means, as it has done numbers of my colleagues.—Yours, &c.,
A CHARGE NURSE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—It is stated in an article in the *British Medical Journal* that the National Pension Fund for Nurses begins with about £1,000 a year from the bonus fund. As at present little upwards of £6,000 has been contributed towards this special fund, perhaps you can inform me where, in these poor times, such exceptionally good interest, as 16 per cent., can be obtained for spare cash. The article also states "that the fund is managed gratuitously by some of the most able and representative City authorities." Does this mean that these gentlemen are good enough to pay the necessarily very heavy working expenses of the fund? We business people all know that a good Secretary, Offices in Old Jewry, the fees of "an eminent actuary," long advertisements in the daily papers, registration of policies, and their Stamps, stationery, printing, postage, &c., are expensive items, and before advising any clients to join the fund I should much like to know who is paying the working expenses. I don't for a moment

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)