

and fine linen in Chrisendom won't cover the multitude o' they're soshall sins. You can't possibly be happy, my portly friend, like this, with all your polish. So wash off your varnish, and get back at once to your yard-sticks and choppin'-blocks, for you're not a success, and not likely to be one, for this position, which you have attained after many years hard struggling and succum'ing to countless hardships, is not fame; bless you, no. Fame does not consist of a fine house, a couple of flunkies, and a handle to your name. You may think it does, for you don't know any better. You're a decent fellow at the bottom, and in your own particular scale, although you wear a red necktie; and I don't mind tellin' you that that which you have at last got hold of is not Fame—oh, dear, no! it's a spurious kind of a thing, a combination of self-conceit and uneducated ambition called snobbery and is vulgar, very.

For my part, I takes it, that Fame, true Fame, is only reached by a process of continued sacrifice to duty and determinashun, and those people who by the true discharge ov the work in their hands, by the conscienshus attenshun to the irksom detales of daily life, do their utmost to improve theirselves, the people they mixes with, and the world they has come into, are much more entitled to be enscribed on the skroll than all the electro-plated sort ov folk of this generashun put together.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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*\*\* 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,—Your editorial remarks upon the Pension Fund article published in the *British Medical Journal* on the 23rd June are much to the point. In the success or failure of the Fund I am not personally interested, but as a member of a hospital committee, I feel most strongly that such a domestic matter as the personal washing of the Nursing Staff, is a question to be discussed, and arranged by the House Committee. I should also be inclined to think that leading articles concerning such details are derogatory to the dignity of a medical paper. Because it is only a few weeks since it was announced that the College of Physicians had discussed the undesirability of their members popularising medicine by contributing papers on professional subjects to non-medical journals. I must confess that it appears to me equally misplaced for medical papers to undertake minor matters of domestic management.—I am, Sir, yours obediently,

July 7, 1888.

CHAIRMAN.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

SIR,—I have read in more than one paper of an act, prompted by a most generous impulse, I am sure, performed by Nurse Finnis, who is reported to have sucked the tracheotomy tube of a little patient suffering with diphtheria, in order to save its life. While all others gave unstinted praise, you alone sounded a note of warning, and qualified your praise by a timely caution, not only for the sake of the Nurse, but also for the sake of the patient, stating that it was quite possible to use too much suction force in such a case, and do irreparable damage. I took the precaution at the time it appeared, of drawing my enthusiastic young Nurses' attention to your little paragraph concerning the matter, and they, in return, have attracted mine to a paragraph in this week's *Hospital*, the editor of which paper evidently very strongly disapproves of your professional criticism upon the subject, and he makes the astounding statement, "on the authority of the Matron," "that Nurse Finnis did not suck the tube, but blew violently down it!" Poor little suffering babe! I can only recommend that the editor of this paper should resign his self-appointed office of champion of the Nursing profession till he has qualified himself for the post by the acquirement of at least a minimum of professional knowledge, such as would be gained by a course of elementary anatomy, which now constitutes part of the training of every Probationer in her first year at all recognised Nursing Schools.—I am, &c.,

A COUNTRY MATRON.

[Our correspondent will see that we have discussed this matter in our Editorial this week.—ED.]

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

SIR,—All Nurses will, I am sure, welcome the articles on Fever Nursing by Miss Harris. I read No. 1 with great interest and pleasure, until I came to the last two lines, where it is written, "all books and toys must be burnt, or better still, sent to amuse the patients of a fever hospital." Now, how is it proposed to send books and toys from one place to another without the danger of, at the same time, sending with them the very unwelcome Scarlet Fever germ, which is well-known to be so virulent and active?

The articles would be stoved of course, but to make them quite safe they would be rotted in the process. Therefore, I should strongly advise that they should be *entirely destroyed* by fire, and all risk of infection prevented. Fever Hospitals are necessarily isolated institutions, and probably do not receive the same amount of personal interest, and in consequence, so many gifts, as other hospitals. But, I feel sure, a few lines in the Leeds paper, placing this fact before the good citizens, would be amply responded to, by presents of books and toys, to their own particular fever hospital.

SISTER ISOLATION.

*To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."*

SIR,—Perhaps it may be useful to "Sister Mary" to know that cut flowers can be preserved alive for a long time, by placing them in a glass or vase with fresh water, in which a little charcoal has been steeped or a small piece of camphor dissolved. The vase should be set upon a plate or dish, and covered with a bell glass, around the edges of which, where it comes in

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