

"A MEETING of ladies who have promised to take part, as stall holders and assistants in the 'Silver Fête,' to be held in Exhibition Gardens, South Kensington, on July 11th and three following days, was held on Thursday afternoon, the 12th inst., in the Conservatory, adjoining the Albert Hall, for the purpose of settling the preliminary arrangements and allotting the various stalls. The meeting was well attended, among those present being Lady Theresa Boyle, Lady O'Neill, Colonel and Mrs. Hassell, Miss Ethel de Costa, the Misses Sykes, Mrs. James Preston, Miss Kelson, and Mrs. and the Misses Hickson. The object of the 'Silver Fête,' so called in commemoration of the Royal Silver Wedding, is to pay off the debt of £3,000 on the new Out-Patients' Wing of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Queen's Road, Chelsea. Among the stall holders will be the Duchess of Westminster, the Marchioness of Abergavenny, the Countess of Aylesford, Lady Randolph Churchill, Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox, Viscountess Wolseley, and Lady Charles Beresford. Ladies are earnestly requested to send presents, for sale at the hospital stall, directed to 'The Silver Fête,' care of Miss Cooper, Lady Superintendent, Victoria Hospital, Chelsea, S.W."—*The Queen.*

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.

It needs but a fit of the tooth-ache to make any one of us sensible of the actual blessedness of freedom from pain, and to the invalid enfeebled by disease, or to one who is disabled or detained in inactivity, by some local affection or accident, how enviable appears the mere power of moving freely from place to place, and pursuing the ordinary business of the day, without hindrance from suffering or weakness.

"MRS. HARRIS'S" REFLECTIONS.

No. 3.—ON FRIENDSHIP.

I AIN'T, and never was, a great admirer, take it altogether, of them there little half-hearted temporary sort of arrangements which people makes all in a hurry, and then chrisens "friendships"; they're too elastik and streches too far for me, and they're never of no real service, they arn't, to nobody. It's these sorts of friendships which gets three wimmin together to tea, and then whenever one of 'em goes (it doesn't matter the least little bit in the world which) the other two codnoddles together and says, "Now did you ever, my dear?" "No, I never did," says the other; and before she knows anything at all about it, the one who left the house first finds her reputashun completely shivered into fragmentarious partikles. Men does the same sort of thing, only in a very different way, for they says nothink, but then they looks it, which is wuss, and passes each other by ever afterwards without speakin', makin' sillies of theirselves.

A real friend—and there are some, only they wants lookin' for—is a fortin; he or she stands by you in thick or thin, rain or fine, rough or smooth, through good luck and mis-fortin—all the same, never different, allus ready with a smile and a cheering sort of a word, as much as to say, "Never mind, try again, just once more to oblige me;" and you feels as though you had got a lift up again, and you puts away your pocket handkerchef and gets quite chirpy like. Stick to such as these like wax when you gets 'em; they're wuth keepin' always; they're good investments. Ask their advice, but never borrow anythink; if they lends to you all well and good; that's their fault, not yours, and the help is all the sweeter for being voluntary.

There's a kind of a friend who is very prevlent in the world, and lor! what a lot they thinks of themselves. They talks a great deal, but does nothink for you exceptin' when you're prosperous, and then they asks you in to see 'em occasionally, and makes a fuss, and sets you down in the best arm-chair; but just let anything go wrong with you—doesn't matter whether the fault's your own or not, they never troubles to enquire—and they jerks up their chins and lifts up their eyes, and don't know you when they meet you. Never mind! such weak-kneed folks as these can't help it—it's a sort of a disease with 'em; all you have to do is to wait and work patiently until you gets a bit up the tree agen, then make it convenient to call upon 'em some day and ask 'em purlite and quiet like whether there's anythink you can do for 'em or their children. If this doesn't cure 'em, well then they *must* be chronic.

In the post-mortem examination of a woman who died of tight lacing at Ararat (Victoria), the doctors discovered three of the ribs forced into the liver.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)