

This judicious appointment reminds me of a rumour that in future the important appointments at the London Hospital may be given by the Matron to outsiders—in other words, that, after years of arduous and unremunerative work in its wards, the graduates in this school may be passed over, and the cream of the appointments may be given to women trained in other Hospitals, who have not given an hour's labour to the Hospital. If this rumour is true—and I can believe the management capable of any injustice to its Nurses—it would be wise that they should take the same course as the medical students of the London Hospital are reported to have taken when the house appointments were, on several occasions, given to men who had not paid their fees to its School. They made a public protest which had a most efficacious result; and, what is more significant, I am told, that the appointments on the honorary staff have of late been filled by "London" men, and not, as formerly, by "the refused" of other schools. If in a Hospital containing 800 beds, and with a staff of 250 Nurses, none of these women are considered sufficiently efficient to fill the superior posts as they fall vacant, it is high time a system of training and selection was inaugurated which shall secure the necessary qualifications, and to graduates the just reward of their work.

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I AM glad to see that "M. C." has called attention, in "Nursing Notes," to the *thorough* manner in which the National Health Society organizes its Nursing Lectures in rural districts, as in an article in the December number of that journal, written by Miss LAMPOR's a most elementary scheme for the instruction of Lecturers on Health was advocated. The National Health Society insists upon its Lecturers being qualified Nurses, and furthermore, gives them a most thorough course of instruction, and only certifies candidates after a stiff examination.

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"M. C." writes:—"As an all-round worker in a remote rural district, I watch with much interest the progress and development of the Technical Education Scheme, as carried on by the establishment of lectures, classes, &c., in the various centres. Your article in the issue of December 1st, states that 'teachers must be found who are thoroughly conversant with what they are going to teach, and able to impart knowledge to country folks. As regards *nursing*, it is premature to say that in many instances this has already been most accomplished, and 'the expensive appliances and impracticable methods' are *not* the rule of such lecturers as have come under my notice. Indeed

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the intensely practical advice, given after many years' personal experience of the ways and means of poor folks in sickness, added to a thorough course of training *in* Hospital and *out*, are quite indisputable, and admit of *no* improvement in our lady lecturer, and her strong appeal to 'mothers' on behalf of their children, if they cannot adopt these helps for themselves, lead me to testify that her arguments come with a force, such as no three months' theoretical and scientific teaching *alone*, can ever possibly impart. It is an injustice also to write 'that there is little or no result from such teaching'—as I can quote several instances where ideas have been not only thoroughly digested by the listeners, but promptly acted upon, and even when this is not the case, it is usually on account of the indolence and self-opinionated doggedness of the ruralists, not the fault of the teachers. I may add that our lecturer was one of those sent by the *National Health Society*."

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NURSES would do well to enforce, by precept and example, the fact, that tight lacing is in the highest degree dangerous. The report of a death from this cause, in the person of an unfortunate scullery-maid, aged 16, at Shaw House, Newry, will, thinks the *British Medical Journal*, give a fresh impetus to the long standing crusade against this feminine folly. The evidence adduced showed that on Sunday evening the deceased went for a walk, and that on returning to Shaw House she proceeded to her bedroom, where she was seized with a fainting fit, from which she did not recover. She had laced her stays very tightly, and Dr. DOUGLAS, the medical man who was called in, stated that the body of the deceased was bloodless, and the tight lacing no doubt produced syncope, which caused her death. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

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I WISH that we could be sanguine of any good resulting from this crusade, but I certainly think that Nurses could do a great deal to inculcate a more rational support for the female figure than a crushing corset.

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ACCORDING to M. Haschimodo, says the *Lancet*, acetic acid and the comma bacillus do not live together in amity and concord. After a maximum sojourn of fifteen minutes in vinegar, containing from 2.2 to 3.2 per cent. of acetic acid, the bacillus is said to perish. Vinegar of this strength, saturated with pure cultures of the cholera bacillus, can, after an interval of fifteen minutes, be inoculated without danger into animals, or be eaten with im-

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