

Fresh Pages.

From the office of the "Feathered World" 273, Strand, comes "Canary breeding and management," by "Jerome." Price 1s. nett; and those of our Nursing readers who keep canaries to cheer them, will find all the information they can want concerning their feathered friends.

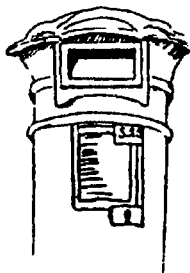
From the same publishers comes "Minorca Fowls, their treatment, &c.," by Fred. Biggs, hon. sec. of the London Minorca Club. Price 6d. This is a remarkably cheap book, and useful to all keepers of poultry.

What Constitutes an Efficient Nurse and Other Papers, by Marian C. Pincoffs (Nurse Marian). London: "The Record Press," 376, Strand, W.C. Price Sixpence.—This is another of those admirable little volumes which the "Record Press" are constantly issuing for the benefit of the profession and the public. The Papers—which have appeared in the NURSING RECORD at various intervals—comprise:—"What Constitutes an Efficient Nurse"; "Some Aspects of Nursing in the Present Day"; "Reasons For and Against a Badge for Members of the British Nurses' Association"; "Specialism for Nurses"; "A Topic of the Day"; and "Nursing as a Fine Art." Altogether there is some very interesting reading well worth the attention of those who have the profession of Nursing at heart. The book is very nicely "turned out" with wide margins and good type; and, with the succinctly expressed opinions of the author, we have an acceptable addition to our library.

Tuberculosis, or Flesh Eating a cause of Consumption, by Josiah Oldfield. Published at the Office of *The Vegetarian*, Farringdon Street, E.C. Price Sixpence.—This is the outcry of a pessimistic vegetarian who evidently does not believe in the theory that "we must eat to live." The perusal of the book reminds us of an advertisement which, after convincing the unfortunate reader that he is suffering from almost every disease under the sun, concludes by informing him that the particular nostrum advertised is his only salvation.

Letters to the Editor.

(Notes, Queries, &c.)



Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I read with great pleasure the notice in your last issue, that it has been decided to celebrate the granting of a Royal Charter of Incorporation to the Royal British Nurses' Association, by holding a Public Dinner, at the Hotel Metropole, where we Nurses are to have the privilege of meeting the leaders of the medical profession, and of hearing them speak on the subject. So many Nurses, whom I know, have said to me of late, "Of course, I shall join the Associa-

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tion now; but I don't understand the use of the Charter—what does it mean? This condition of ignorance is very deplorable; but we women are very ignorant on all public questions, and I hope much enlightenment will be gained by those present at the Dinner, and that the rank and file who cannot afford to be there, may have the advantage of reading in the NURSING RECORD a full report of the proceedings. And please, Mr. Editor, will you be good enough to open your columns to those of our leaders who understand the great question of the advantages of professional status so well, and ask them to be good enough to explain plainly, to those who are anxious for knowledge, what is the signification of the Royal Charter,—Yours respectfully,

"REGISTERED NURSE."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—Your courtesy is so unailing to Nurses, that I venture to trespass upon your valuable space, and must, first of all, offer to you the very sincere thanks of myself and the Nursing Staff of this Institution, for the courageous manner in which you have upheld the R.B.N.A. during the past years of persecution, and for the very material help you have given towards our grand victory—the grant of the Royal Charter. During these years of suspense, many poor Nurses have been intimidated and prevented joining the Association, and, upon enquiry, I find it will now be quite impossible for them to gain admittance into the Chartered Corporation of Nurses—a loss which will be very real a few years hence. The unscrupulous methods employed by Mr. H. C. Burdett's weekly paper, in which the intimidation and misrepresentations continue by the column, must now prove conclusively its great malice. To attempt to belittle our Royal Charter—drawn on the most liberal and comprehensive of lines—is even more useless than all its former tactics, and will prove absolutely futile, though disastrous to those Nurses weak enough to still be influenced by unprofessional criticism. What Nurses have now to grasp is, that their calling is honourably incorporated by the State as a *recognised profession*. The Royal Charter means that the line of demarcation has now been drawn between the *professional* and the *amateur* Nurse, and, for the future, we must stand on the one side or the other—there can be no more "sitting on the fence."—Yours,

"MATRONA."

NURSES' UNIFORMS.

To the Editor of "the Nursing Record."

Sir,—Now we have got our Royal Charter, why should we not all have a uniform, belonging especially to the R.B.N.A. Some time ago, it was suggested that we should all wear our badges, but how few do, and would there not be fewer who would wear the ribbon? I do think it is high time that we Nurses should make a stand about our dress, and that something should be done to stop this scandal and consequent disgrace on our profession; also to prevent servants of all classes wearing the uniform. If Mistresses would only take up the cause and not engage a servant who dressed like a Nurse, it would be a great step, as now in houses it is often difficult to distinguish between us. The idea of a luminous cross is good, but one that could be easily adopted by the class to whom the scandal refers. Could not our badges be made luminous? and the rule insisted on, that all Members should wear it on the outside of the cloak, and also that a fine be inflicted on those wearing it unlawfully. I am, dear Mr. Editor,

"ONE WHO ALWAYS WEARS THE BADGE."

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