

weak point there—the weak point in fact. But not more so than in Hospitals generally. Considering, however, the marvellous heroism and most admirable devotion displayed by good women in almost every hospital nowadays, a remedy for this particular grievance of overwork is the chief thing needful.—

Yours truly,

WILLIAM TALLACK.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Having followed with great interest the controversy initiated in your journal about the London Hospital, I should like as a regular visitor of many years' standing, to enter a protest against the methods by which this so-called investigation has been carried on. First of all, what is the institution against which these attacks have been made? It is the hospital in London which serves the most crowded and poorest part of the metropolis, and is therefore an engine of relief and absolutely necessary help to those who most require it. Its income is almost entirely derived from voluntary subscriptions. Any wholesale sweeping attack on the management of such an institution means a heavy and certain crippling of its resources, and an increase of suffering and distress in the district to whose wants it alone ministers. A heavy responsibility therefore rests on any who either originate or encourage such an onslaught, unless it be carried out on strictly judicial lines and supported by evidence which is conclusive and incontrovertible. Now, what is the method adopted by your powerful journal? A series of anonymous letters are inserted, headed by 'Your Special Commissioner,' and at the same time the *Pall Mall Gazette* announces its readiness to publish any reply. But the fact that the writer of the adverse criticisms is dubbed 'Pall Mall Special Commissioner' precludes your journal from impartially considering the merits of a controversy in which it is thus personally involved, for the *Pall Mall Gazette*, having once assumed the rôle of leading counsel for the attack, cannot subsequently discharge the duties of judge and jury. It is not for me as a visitor to enter into the details of the attack, which have been better answered by more competent authorities. But I can express my deep conviction that many of the criticisms are unfounded on present fact, and I should like to bear testimony to the self-sacrificing spirit reigning all through the hospital, and to the untiring zeal for their work, and tenderness shown by Sisters and Nurses to every patient in their wards, and last but not least, to the energy and power of the Matron, who has done so much in the arrangements of the Nursing Home,

and otherwise for the enormous staff working under her, as well as for the general management of the hospital,

I must apologize for taking up your space, but I feel so strongly that the method of these attacks on the London Hospital must do more harm than good, must injure the usefulness of its really great work, and cannot tend to reform any of the errors of management, without which no human institution ever did or ever will exist.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MAUD GEORGE HAMILTON.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

"SIR,—May I, as the secretary for nine years of a trained Nurses' club, bear testimony to the opinions I have heard freely expressed during these years with regard to the treatment of Nurses at the London Hospital. With regard to this Hospital I have gained my information from the conversation, not of dismissed Nurses or unsuccessful Probationers of a few months' experience, but from Nurses in responsible positions, either in their own Hospital, other Institutions, or working independently. I hear but one opinion, generally the following:—'The happiest years of my life were spent at the dear old London. Hard work? Certainly; but then *such* experience and training.' If there are grievances, which doubtless is the case—what Hospital is exempt?—I, for one, have not heard of them with regard to the London Hospital, though of grievances I hear plenty of all sorts and kinds, it being part of my daily life at the club to hear all and say nothing. No one, however, can prevent me drawing my own conclusions. One of these conclusions (I can state freely, as though I believe I have seen the Matron of the London Hospital I do not personally know her) is, that the better and more successful the workers the greater their admiration for and faith in the wisdom of, their Matron to whom they seem always to turn for advice when in any professional trouble or difficulty, even though they may long have left their *Alma Mater*. Another conclusion I have come to is that the demand for London Hospital Nurses, and the high repute in which I know they are universally held, is sufficient answer for me as to their good training, for I know from long experience I am always safe in recommending a Nurse trained at the London Hospital. One word with regard to the patients—and I have known many. Nothing can exceed the considerate kindness and success with which they are treated. I should like to add a special word of gratitude to many of the Sisters who seem

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