

a letter from a "Political Charge Nurse," I cannot resist a few words in reply to her letter, as I am in true sympathy with her desire to be recognised by the law of the land as a responsible human being, and, therefore, to be entrusted with the responsibility of a vote. "Political Charge Nurse" asks if it would be a breach of Nursing etiquette for her to take round a petition in favour of "Woman's Suffrage" to the patients in her ward. I should say that this is a question for the chief official in the Institution in which she resides to decide. If given the consent of those responsible for the Institution, and the patients (as many are) were in a fit condition to be interested in public affairs, there is no reason why they should not be given the opportunity of signing a petition, so long as no pressure is brought to bear on them to do so against their inclination. In the Spring, I undertook to interest the Nurses in the Home Hospital, under my superintendence, in the General Appeal in favour of "Women's Suffrage," which was to have been presented to members of the House of Commons this session. One of our lady patients, resident before undergoing a very serious operation, had strong views concerning the undesirability of giving women a vote, and we had some amusing discussions on the subject, her argument being that women were not fit to be entrusted with responsibility. The operation took place; for two weeks our patient's life hung in the balance: the most skilled handling was necessary; secondary hæmorrhage took place in the night which needed prompt and drastic measures on our part; eventually, the balance weighed down on the side of life. The first question she asked the surgeon was, May I sign a paper? and when, a few days later permission was granted, she said, "Sister, bring me your little book; I have made a mistake, women only need opportunity to appreciate responsibility; I want to sign for the enfranchisement of women for fear I have a relapse."—Yours, etc.,

"SISTER IN CHARGE."

Comments and Replies.

Miss Major, Leeds.—No one is now admitted as a Sister in the Army who has not undergone a three years' complete training. Obtain the Nursing Directory from the Manager, 376, Strand.

Miss Flower, Oxford.—When in London, call at the Office of the Royal British Nurses' Association; we do not doubt your suggestion will meet with consideration.

Miss Stevens, Manchester.—We cannot answer your question satisfactorily, because it requires much explanation. We will deal with the subject at an early date in our Editorial column.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

- A. Miss Annesley, Hamburg (with enclosure).
- B. Miss de Bastide Baarslag, Amsterdam (with enclosure); Miss Bann, Chester.
- C. Miss A. Craven, Inverness; Miss Curtis, London; General W. M. Campbell, Cuckfield.
- D. Mrs. Dawson, Nottingham.
- F. Miss A. Fisher, Chicago (with enclosure); Miss Flower, Oxford.
- G. Mrs. Gordon, London; Miss F. Grace, Somerset.
- H. Miss Harris, Baltimore, U.S.A.; Miss Homer, Liverpool; Miss M. Homersham, London.
- I. Miss Long, London (with enclosure); Mr. F. Larkworthy, London.
- M. Miss Manning, Paris; Miss Major, Leeds (with enclosure).
- O. Mrs. Okell, Bridgwater.
- R. Mrs. Rose, London (with enclosure).
- S. Miss Stevens, Manchester; Miss G. Stubbs, Leith, N.B.

The Registered Nurses' Society.

(A CO-OPERATION OF PRIVATE NURSES.)

269, REGENT STREET, W.

Telegraphic Address: "SOROR, LONDON."

Membership is only open to Registered Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association of three years' Hospital training. Members will obtain their full earnings, less 7½ per cent. commission—to cover the expenses of management. Any surplus will be set aside for the benefit of the members. Many of the leading medical men in London and the Provinces have promised the Society their cordial support. Applications for membership may be made, in the first instance by letter only, to the Secretary at the Offices.

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