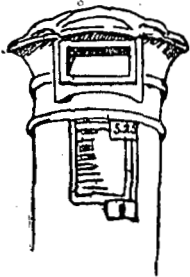


## Inventions, Preparations, &c.

### PITHER'S STOVES.

We recently called attention, in this column, to a very valuable method of warming invalid rooms in the shape of the Radiant Open Fire Stove, patented by Messrs. Pither, of 36 and 38, Mortimer Street, W., the well-known firm of Decorators. In consequence of various questions which have since been addressed to us on the matter, we have pleasure in further explaining, that these Stoves have the great advantages of burning for twelve hours without attention, giving out the whole time a cheerful glow and considerable heat; that they are free from smell, and from other dangers which are attendant upon so many stoves, and finally, that they are so cheap, that the estimated cost of fuel necessary for eight hours' consumption is only one penny. The stoves are best fixed by enclosing the fire-place opening with a sheet of iron, copper, or brass, in which a hole is cut to admit the stove pipe. The stove is filled from the top, and only requires to be charged once in 24 hours. Those of our readers who may desire further particulars respecting this valuable invention, can obtain an illustrated catalogue by writing to the manufacturers at the address above given.



## 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 MIDWIFE QUESTION.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—My attention has been drawn to an editorial in your issue of December 15th, entitled "The beginning of the ending of Midwives." The writer of this article appears to be ignorant of the fact that a Select Committee of the House of Commons—not usually supposed to be an hysterical or sentimental body, sat during two sessions to consider the question of the registration of Midwives. After hearing a large amount of valuable and important evidence, including that of medical men, and women in various spheres of practice both in town and country, a report was issued in August of last year, by the Committee; in paragraph 2 of this report, the following statement should be noted, "They, (the Committee) find that amongst the poor and working classes, both in the country and in towns, the services of properly trained Mid-

The Link Shell Truss Co., 171, Wardour Street, London, W., have a new truss, it is claimed that by this method of manufacture a truss is provided which will be more comfortable than the one in ordinary use and better able to adapt itself to the various movements of the body, especially if these are of a sudden character. The truss is fitted with a hip-joint regulator by means of which the pressure is increased or diminished as required and with a soft hollow shell pad perforated for ventilation. The Truss as thus completed is an efficient one.—*Lancet*, August 4th, 1894.

wives have been eminently successful, and of great advantage to the community. As proved by the evidence before your Committee, *the services of Midwives are a necessity.* (the italics are my own), and consequently, every precaution should be taken to discourage the practice of women who are ignorant and unqualified." After reading this extract from a report drawn up by a body including every shade of political opinion, and including in their number two medical men, it will be evident that in future the important question at issue will be fought out on wider than merely professional grounds. The question is for the public, not only for the medical man, or the midwife; it is the beginning we trust of a new and national reform, rather than the ending of what your editorial calls, that "anachronism," the Midwife.—I am, yours faithfully,

JANE WILSON,

*President of the Midwives Institute, (Incorporated 1889).*

[We refer to this in our "Echoes" this week.—ED.]

### THE "MESSAGE" QUESTION.

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

MADAM,—Will you kindly grant me a small portion of your valuable space on behalf of a large number of proficient and conscientious Masseurs, Masseuses and Massotherapeutists who have been described by *The British Medical Journal* as "honest and capable" persons, who are doing "legitimate and helpful work," but whose "study and practice of a therapeutic method" is being injured by the recent "unfortunate developments." Unfortunately there are hundreds of intelligent and useful men and women whose prospects have been well-nigh ruined by reported malpractices of unscrupulous persons. With a view to placing Massage on a sound, systematic and scientific basis, a preliminary meeting was held at the undermentioned address on Wednesday evening last, when the objects, constitution and rules of a British Massage Association were placed before those present by Mr. Thomas Maltby, a gentleman whose unceasing labours in the interests of genuine Massage unquestionably deserve a much wider appreciation than they have hitherto received. It was unanimously agreed that an Association should immediately be constituted on the lines laid down by Mr. Maltby; that a committee should be formed to consider the constitution and rules in detail; that every Masseur and Masseuse should be requested to support the movement, and that the Press be asked to do all in its power to further the scheme. Those who are desirous of joining the Association, and members of the Medical Profession and the public wishing to render voluntary assistance are invited to correspond with me. The meeting above referred to was adjourned until Wednesday, January 16th, 1895, when a large attendance is expected.—Yours faithfully,

T. GARNER, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

Temporary Offices of the Association, 2, Sloane Square, London, S.W., 22nd December, 1894.

### "OUR SCOTCH LETTER."

*To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."*

DEAR EDITOR,—May I ask for space to correct a slight mistake made by the writer of your Scotch letter last week, probably from ignorance of some Scottish terms. In the first advertisement quoted, "Nurse-housemaid" has no reference to a trained Nurse, but means a nurse maid for children past babyhood, who is also willing to do some house work. Of the second advertisement, I can only say that it is unprofessional, and probably from an unprofessional source, not approved by any true Nurse. We should be glad to know your correspondent's grounds for asserting, the "standard of Nursing is low in Scotland." A SCOTTISH NURSE.

Reduction of Munson Typewriter prices from £21 to £12 12s., our Odell Typewriter reduced to 63s., particulars of both free.—LINK-SHELL TRUSS Co. Surgical Instrument Makers.

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