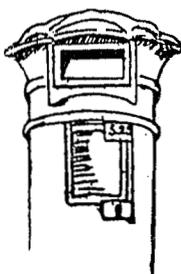


Grand Organ Recitals are given every Sunday afternoon at 3.30 p.m. at Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., in aid of charitable institutions. Admission is free, but there are reserved seats.



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.

"NO NURSES ADMITTED."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—While thanking you for your editorial in last week's issue, will you kindly permit me to add my experiences to those of "Indignation"? Last month I was invited to dine with some friends at the Langham Hotel. Upon entering the public dining room, a waiter advanced and whispered to my hosts that no Nurse in uniform was admitted. Not wishing to create a disturbance, we withdrew to the entrance hall where I offered to remove my bonnet and cloak, but on the waiter demanding my apron also I flatly refused, and my friends requested to see the manager, whose only reply to their indignant expostulations was that "visitors seeing a Nurse in uniform always suspected infectious diseases in the hotel." As I had no time to waste in useless arguments (and the alternative would have been to have taken a private room) I covered my offending garments with my friend's opera cloak, and thus arrayed I was permitted once more to re-enter the dining room and take my seat with the other guests.

I am, Madam, yours faithfully,
"A STAFF-NURSE."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Last summer my brother and his wife were staying at a well-known hotel in London and invited me to breakfast with them. We were walking into the coffee room when I was politely but firmly stopped by the hall porter by the words "Very sorry, Madam, but Nurses in uniform are not admitted; the visitors object."

I asked if I might be *allowed* to have my breakfast if not in uniform. I received an affirmative answer, so went upstairs and divested myself of my (in my eyes) *honourable* insignia of office and was then permitted to enter the sacred precincts of the coffee room and to eat in the presence of those exclusive and prejudiced visitors.

Yours faithfully,
A FELLOW-SUFFERER.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Curiously enough I also suffered the same indignity as "Indignation" a few weeks ago, and so strongly do I feel upon the subject that I beg to inform you that it was at the Langham Hotel, in Portland Place, where I was turned out of the public dining room because I wore the dress made compulsory by the authorities of the Hospital in which I was training, and I may also inform you that I did not leave without a protest. In my opinion, where such a rule is enforced in the public dining room of a hotel, it should be distinctly printed amongst other regulations, so that all who run may read thus:—"Dogs and Nurses in uniform not admitted." Our numerous relations, friends and patients would then be able to give that particular hotel a wide berth. I am glad you have taken up the subject upon our behalf, as publicity is the only method nowadays of righting abuses—and it is a monstrous thing that because a lady wears the

uniform cloak and bonnet (a very modest attire) of the trained Nurse that she should be subject to the indignity of being turned out of a public room by hotel waiters, especially when one takes into consideration the company which is sometimes permitted to remain behind. We gentlemen would certainly not complain if the waiters had directions to show the door politely to ladies whose dyed heads, painted faces, bizarre garments, all redolent of patchouli and *chypre* are to be met in every hotel and restaurant in Europe, but I imagine their capacity for the consumption of Perrier-Jouet and Pommery *sec*—to say nothing of the emerald tinted cordials of la Grande Chartreuse weigh heavily in the favour of retaining the patronage of this class of person, when the temperate and retiring habits of the "Nuss" are not considered *de rigueur*. Any way, fellow-sufferers, remember, warn all your colleagues, their relations, friends and patients to avoid the inhospitable portals of the Langham Hotel.

Yours,
"A BRITISH NURSE."

MIDWIVES' DIPLOMAS.

We have been requested to publish the following letter, which has been addressed by the Clerk of the Guardians of the Poor of Kensington to the General Medical Council.

Guardians' Offices,
Marloes Road, Kensington, W.
30th April, 1895.

SIR,—The Guardians of this Parish, who for some years past have trained in the special Lying-in Wards attached to their Infirmary a large number of trained Nurses to pass the examination of the London Obstetrical Society, have heard with much regret of the resolution passed by the General Medical Council on the 3rd December last with respect to the issue of Midwifery Diplomas or Certificates in general, and of the Certificates of the Obstetrical Society of London in particular.

The Guardians are the more surprised at this action as they have always understood that the General Medical Council have regarded the absence of public provision for the education and supervision of Midwives as being productive of a large amount of suffering and disease among the poorer classes, and that the Council had been recommended by a Select Committee of the House of Commons to frame rules for the conduct of examinations for the admission of women to act as trained and certificated Midwives.

It was to a great extent to meet these expressions of opinion that the Guardians of this parish undertook, in conjunction with the Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association, the yearly training of a number of previously qualified Nurses in their Midwifery Wards, but they have every reason to fear that if the Resolution of the Council stands, and the London Obstetrical Society therefore ceases to issue in its present formits Diploma or Certificate of competency, the good work which they have been doing for so many years will cease, as women will be unwilling to enter for a course of training for which they will be unable to obtain a Certificate of efficiency qualifying them to act as Midwives.

Having regard, therefore, to the value and importance which is attached to special training in Midwifery, and to the examinations conducted by the London Obstetrical Society and other bodies, the Guardians have directed me to ask that the General Council will re-consider and withdraw their Resolution of December last, so that the training and sending out of competent Midwives may be continued unimpeded.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN. H. RUTHERGLEN,
Clerk.

The Registrar,
General Medical Council,
299, Oxford Street, W.

[We must at once point out that the General Medical Council have merely performed a duty confided to them by

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