

I also feel the great charm at the Home is due to Mrs. McIntyre, for her great sympathy and loving-kindness to everyone whom she may come in contact with, and both my friend and myself feel deeply grateful for all the attention which we have received while staying there. I do not wish to forget that we Nurses owe a deep debt of gratitude to Mrs. Lionel Lucas, who has done so much for the welfare of Nurses.

Believe me,

Dear Madam,

Yours sincerely,

ELIZABETH ALLEN.

Southampton.

#### THE "MERCENARY NURSE."

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—Attention has often been called in the correspondence columns of the RECORD to one of the deep-rooted traditions, that women undergo Hospital training with perfectly altruistic motives—for the good of others, in the cause of humanity, &c. It is time such hypocritical mists were cleared away, as the chief effect of these superstitions is to stand in the light of adequate remuneration for Nursing work. I quote the following from an address delivered by a physician to Nurses:—

"The mercenary Nurse would also be excluded by this test. The Nurse who is satisfied with getting through her prescribed course of study and obtaining her diploma simply with a view to money-getting, &c., &c."

I must say that I do not meet many doctors who are unmindful of fees and income. In fact, in setting up, the young doctor invariably considers prospects and probable incomings. He does not choose a neighbourhood where there are many sick and few with money enough to pay their doctor's bills. Then why should the Nurse be expected to do her work *solely* with an ideal, and no worldly wisdom?

Sincerely yours,

NURSE BATES.

#### SANDALS VERSUS SHOES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I do not think the suggestion made by your correspondent, that sandals should be substituted for shoes, is a practical one. Simply for this reason. She suggests sandals for indoor wear, and the ordinary shoes for out of doors. The change from the natural easy sandal to the average pinching, cramping, distorting walking shoe would be intolerable. Our only chance is to accustom the feet always to the discomfort of the "shoe of commerce," or to defy public taste and fashion, and have our shoes made for us on broad, natural lines. We shall have to come to this; and it will be allowed that among thinking people, boots and shoes have undergone a perfect revolution during the last ten years. Educate the women, and rational dress must follow. You cannot put the cart before the horse, and you cannot induce women to think and act for themselves—especially in matters of dress—until you educate their minds. The rest follows.

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET BURNS.

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.  
From the sweet-scented Island of Ceylon.

#### MONTHLY NURSES' FEES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—A friend of mine has just missed a "monthly" case, for which she was engaged, owing to the patient being confined about six weeks prematurely. The husband refuses to acknowledge his liability. I have read somewhere of a similar case which was taken into Court and judgment given in favour of the Nurse for full fee. I should be so much obliged if you or one of your many readers could tell me where the account of such a case may be found. I should also much like to hear the experience of other Nurses in similar cases. I hope you will have space for a little correspondence on this subject, as you are generally so willing to help us Nurses in difficulties.

I am, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

DORIS.

#### ENGLISH NURSES IN AMERICA.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I am sure the following extract from an address, given in Philadelphia, by Dr. Anna Fullerton, will be very gratifying to many of your Nurse readers, as testifying to the estimate in which English Nurses are held in America. She said: "I have frequently had American Nurses tell me that they felt quite aggrieved that the managers of large Hospitals in this country, and especially in our city, should obtain their Superintendents of Nurses from England, rather than using home products. The reason for the fact, I think, is fully explained by the disposition of our Nurses to be satisfied with short terms of study and Hospital practice. The American girl is quick and bright, but alas, she is not often *thorough*! I especially desire to lay stress upon this point, because I feel that in their satisfaction with mediocre attainments, our Nurses are losing some of the best opportunities for advancement in their profession: and if there is one thought rather than another that I would leave with you to-night, it is this: Take time to become thorough. An old Arabic proverb says:

'The stone that is fit for the wall  
Is not left by the way.'

Emerson speaks in his essay on 'Success' of our danger as a nation of losing sight of *excellence* in 'the hunger for *sudden performance* and *praise*.' She wound up by exhorting American Nurses to train in schools where they would receive a lengthy and thorough training, and not to be satisfied with less than a four or five year standard.

Truly yours,

AN ENGLISH NURSE IN NEW YORK.

#### Notice.

#### THE NURSING EXHIBITION PRIZES.

For the conditions for competition for prizes, see page iii. of Supplement.

The letters received concerning Nursing in the Operating Theatre will appear next week. They were received too late for publication in this issue.

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