

Education. Mrs. R. W. Eddison. Discussion.—The Preservation of Sight in Children. H. Bendelack Hewetson, M.R.C.S. Discussion.—Women as Teachers of Hygiene. Miss Ravenhill, N.H.S. (*Interval for Luncheon.*)

2.30 p.m.—Education of the Speaking Voice. A. Burrell, M.A. Discussion.—Health in Infant Schools. Mrs. Connor, Assoc. San. Inst. Discussion.

4.30 p.m.—Tea and Reception at Yorkshire Training Schools of Cookery, Laundry, Needlework, and Dress-making, 90, Albion Street. (Limited to 60 persons.)

Thursday, September 16th. (Not Friday, as first arranged.) 10.30 a.m.—Horticulture as a Healthy Occupation for Women. Miss Goodrich Freer. Discussion.—Our Milk Supply and Some of its Dangers. Miss Hutchinson, Assoc. San. Inst. Discussion.—The Church and Sanitation. Rev. F. Lawrence. Discussion.—Hygiene in Education. Mrs. Francis Steinthal. Discussion.

1.30 p.m.—End of the Ladies' Conference.

number of men increasing, but also the standard, the male nurse of to-day being better educated and far superior to the drunken sot of the past. I hold no brief for male nurses, but consider your remarks were unjust, and calculated to give your readers an erroneous and unfavourable impression of a deserving body of men.

Yours faithfully,

W. ARUNDEL CREEDON.

134, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.,  
September 1st, 1897.

[An expression of opinion on the part of our readers as to whether they consider nursing a manly occupation would be interesting.—ED.]

#### INDIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I was much interested in last week's editorial on the Indian Army Nursing Service, as few people at home know the prejudice in India against having well-trained Sisters in the military hospitals and stations, and the consequent difficulties which met the pioneer Sisters when they began their work in India eight years ago—difficulties which even yet they have by no means overcome. But the attack in the *Indian Medical Record* on the Indian Army Nursing Sisters—containing, as it does, the imputation that, owing to their ignorance, officiousness, or neglect of duty, our soldiers have suffered from increased mortality in typhoid fever—is so serious a charge that I quite agree with you that it should only be advanced on positive proofs. You are right to doubt the charge until it is proved, and I hope the public will also suspend judgment and not condemn the Sisters in India until the matter has been, inquired into. The public are beginning to grasp the fact that their interests are not always of the first consideration in nursing matters at home, and in India the prejudice upon the part of many army medical officers is extreme. They prefer the old order of things before educated lady nurses took part in the ward work, and they make no secret that they would like to revert to the system. Surely, such a suggestion, as depriving our soldiers, when invalided, in India, of the trained services of educated nurses, will not be entertained by the authorities at the India Office for a moment. What is really required, is that the Nursing Service should be largely augmented, to make it possible for the Sisters to deal even more efficiently in the future than they have been able to do in the past with serious cases of illness like typhoid fever, the nursing treatment of which is all important and very arduous.

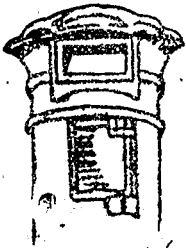
I am, Madam,

Yours truly,  
A FRIEND OF "TOMMY."

#### SELF-GOVERNMENT.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I quite agree with your suggestion to the Editorial Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association that they should make the committee more representative of nurses. I hope they will take your advice to heart. The absurd mistake in the last *Journal* as to Charing Cross Hospital could not have been made had nurses been represented, as they should have been, by the leaders of their own profession. I



### 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.*

#### IS NURSING MANLY?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I desire emphatically to join issue with you in regard to your assertion that men lose any of their manliness through constant attendance on the sick. The qualities called into action in such case are of a higher, not lower, nature, and tend to make a man *gentle* (not weak), and in no sense effeminate. Two male nurses known to me, after ten years' nursing, have just started on a journey to Klondyke, which is hardly the kind of journey effeminate men would choose, and they are certainly no less manly than they were ten years ago.

You may as well argue that a surgeon, after performing many operations, becomes demoralized, or that the general medical practitioner, after many years' attendance on sick men, women, and children, becomes effeminate; but everybody knows that such is not the case. You also seem to doubt the statement made by a contemporary with regard to male nurses, that "during the last three or four years the demand for them has been greatly on the increase." The truth of this statement is very evident to those who take an interest in nursing matters; and one institution, for male nurses, that started between three and four years ago with about twelve men, has, at the present time, nearly one hundred and fifty on its books; and these men are kept permanently employed, which is easily proved by referring to the balance-sheet, which shows that, after paying commission, each man has earned, on an average, about £100 per annum. Not only is the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)