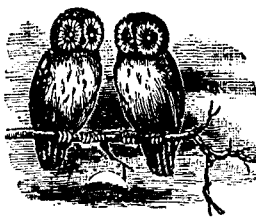


nurses in four years to alienate the respect of the public for medical men than it will take many a year to restore. *Gentlemen don't bully women.* That sums up the whole question in the opinion of educated men and women.

Matrons in Council.



THE Matrons' Council has decided to hold an Annual Conference on Nursing Questions—instead of the monthly sessional meetings during the winter—as it has been ascertained that such an arrangement would meet the conveni-

ence of those desirous of attending from a distance. The first Conference will, therefore, be held on the 15th and 16th of June next, at the Medical Society's rooms, Chandos Street, London, W. The meetings will be held from 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on both days. Papers on the following subjects have already been suggested:—

- “The Matron's Duty to her Profession.”
- “Home Hospitals.”
- “Nursing as a Domestic Art.”
- “Specialism in Nursing.”
- “Suggested Reforms in the Army Nursing Service.”
- “Women's Work on Infirmity Boards.”
- “Matrons' Chronic.”
- “A Practical Standard of Nursing.”

Eight papers only can be read and discussed, but if other subjects are considered of more interest and importance to the profession at large, suggestions can be made to Miss Breay, Hon. Sec. Matrons' Council, 46, York Street, Portman Square, W., and these will receive careful attention. The subjects suggested can be made to cover the discussion of many important questions, as for instance, upon Specialism in Nursing—the question of the registration of specialists can be thrashed out—and in a Practical Standard of Nursing, the opinions of those present can be defined in regard to a satisfactory curriculum of education, certification and legal registration. Most of the subjects suggested are of great importance to the general public, and will no doubt arouse their interest.

Any member of the Matrons' Council who intimates to the Secretary her wish to be present, will receive a numbered ticket entitling her to a reserved seat throughout the Conference. Non-members will be admitted upon the payment of 1s. for each morning or afternoon meeting, or by application to the Secretary they can obtain a ticket for 3s. entitling them to a reserved seat to all the meetings.

An International Heart.

SOMEHOW, whenever stirring events occur, and the question of war between dark mediæval Spain and her beautiful daughter of light—Columbia, Star of the West, causes the heart to throb, one recurs to 1893, and that one memorable week in May, when the earnest women of all nations met together to take council on affairs in International Conference. How many delightful friendships were forged in that hour, and what of inspiration, as of hope, we of the younger generation have enjoyed ever since. It was in Chicago, 1893, that we women of the Old World met Clara Barton and heard her speak. Her heart-stirring words addressed to the deputed delegates of all nations, commissioned to go each to her own land and there to plead the cause of the International Co-operation of Women, will remain with us for all time. “Farewell dear comrades, sisters, for are not all the nations of the earth akin? Go forth hopefully in your great work of love. For myself, I am passing, but God gave Clara Barton an international heart.” It was with great pleasure that we read the record of this great woman's life's work in the following sympathetic article in Monday's *Daily Telegraph*:—

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

“So many years have flown since two great and civilised powers have been engaged in war that the existence and purpose of the Red Cross Societies in upwards of forty different countries of the world has been almost forgotten. None of these possesses, however, a more interesting or useful history than that of America, while its president, Miss Clara Barton, upon whom so much would devolve when active hostilities began, may fairly claim a place among the notable women of the century. It is, perhaps, something more than a coincidence that her life should in so many respects resemble that of our own deeply venerated Florence Nightingale. Both were women of wealth, refinement, and education, both were irresistibly called into great campaigns, both proved themselves marvellous experts in evolving order from chaos, both suffered seriously in health from their unceasing devotions to the sick and wounded, and both have shrunk from publicity, interviewing, and self-advertisement in their continued after-efforts for the health and well-being of the disabled soldier. Miss Barton, however, has not been compelled to forego all personal exertions, but has been able, though at the cost of real suffering afterwards, to bear a part in her various efforts in the field.

“It is impossible to tell the story of the American Red Cross Society without also telling that of Clara Barton. The real beginning of the work goes back to the days when the Ladies' Sanitary Society was doing such valuable service in the war of the North and South. She was at the commencement of that struggle staying in Washington, when the news came that some of the Northern troops had been attacked at Baltimore, where numbers were lying wounded. Immediately she and a small band of ladies volunteered their assistance as

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)