

measure, be subordinate to the Matron in all but his medical duties. With a good Committee, the duties of these two officials would not clash. House-Surgeons are young and birds of passage. Good Matrons are not so easily attainable.

Yours, X.

A PLEA FOR EQUALITY.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—The letter of "A English Girl," whilst displaying an ignorance and narrow mindedness, seldom met with in these days, marks her out as unfit material of which to make an English Nurse.

Cleverness and pertness may carry her through all examinations, but at present, the heart and spirit of a true Nurse is not in her. As our universities admit coloured students, and our hospitals are opened to coloured patients, and coloured nurse pros., whilst English women of various ranks marry coloured men, it behoves such as "A English Girl," to divest themselves of old-fashioned prejudices, and cease to despise their coloured fellow-creatures.

The remarks of experienced Nurses, which you publish, are certain to produce a good effect; and I hope there may be many more of their letters.

No doubt there are Matrons who, if allowed by their Committees, would gladly give the post of Charge Nurse to Miss Woodbine; so we shall hope to hear soon of her obtaining an appointment.

Yours sincerely,

ROSINA GRAHAM, M.R.B.N.A.

October 23rd, 1898.

AN UNHOLY ALLIANCE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR EDITOR,—May I call your attention to the enclosed circular which is being sent to nurses. Two from the same firm have lately been sent to a nurse I know. It seems a very dangerous thing to offer such bribes to nurses who, without seeing any harm in it, might be led on to great temptation. I am sure a warning from you would be most helpful.

D. M. L.

THE SANITARY WOOD WOOL COMPANY, LIMITED.

MADAM,—I beg to enclose a copy of our latest *Reduced Price List for Nurses*, by which you will see we allow nurses a great reduction, as we think it only fair that they should MAKE A PROFIT OUT OF THE DRESSINGS, ETC., THEY OBTAIN FOR THEIR PATIENTS.

Our *Hartmann's Patent Wood Wool Preparations* are now so well known, and highly appreciated everywhere, that we feel sure you are well acquainted with the advantages and comforts derived from their use, both to nurse and patient, and we hope to be favoured from time to time, with your esteemed orders,

I am, Madam, Yours faithfully,

THE MANAGERESS.

[We have dealt with this matter in the Echoes.—Ed.]

ESPRIT DE CORPS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I notice that a correspondent in your valuable journal, complains of the lack of *esprit de corps* amongst nurses. This is so no doubt, but I do not think the failing—for such it is—is confined to nurses, but is one belonging to womankind generally. I have been looking about for the reason, which I think

goes down even deeper than the jealousy of one woman of another, and I believe it is the early education of girls. Boys as a rule go early to school, and afterwards to a public school and a University, and is it not a fact that there is always something lacking in men who have not had these advantages in their early days? They may be everything that is estimable, but somehow they are—to some extent at least—apart from their kind, and their views, more or less, narrow. Again, is it not for the reason that men may learn something of their social and public duties that it is common for them to spend three years or more at a University? The very moderate amount of knowledge, necessary for a pass degree, might certainly be acquired with ease, in a shorter period, by study at home, without the distractions incident upon University life. But it is universally recognized that the value of a University career to a man in his after life is extreme, and for the reason that he has obtained a wider view of men, and things, if he has made the most of his opportunities, than could be obtained in any other way.

Now it is the exception rather than the rule for a woman to have these advantages. Her desultory studies are usually conducted at home by a governess, and end when she is about 17, after which time her sole duty is held to be to play, sing, and dance a little, and to make herself agreeable to eligible young men, with a view to annexing a suitable partner for life. If she achieves this, she is held to be a success. If she has views as to entering a profession, she is looked upon as "strong minded," and in any case she must do something where she can make money as well as acquire knowledge, as there is no money forthcoming to spend upon fitting her for a profession. What wonder then that she is groovy and somewhat selfish. When our girls are educated at public schools, and subsequently take a University degree, as a matter of course, we shall then, I believe, have nurses possessed of some appreciation of their public duties, and of *esprit de corps*. A university career would also settle the vexed question as to what girls are to do with themselves until they are of an age to enter a training school as nurses, and their time would be most usefully employed in studying Latin, physiology, botany, chemistry, and other subjects bearing upon their future work.

Yours faithfully, PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Notice.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

THE Nursing Directory Sub-Committee of the Matrons' Council will meet during November, to consider applications for admission to the Nursing Directory. Nurses who have been trained in General Hospitals of 100 beds or over, and can be well recommended by their Matrons, are eligible. Application forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Matrons' Council, 46, York Street, Portman Square, London, W.

For the future, copies of the NURSING RECORD will be on sale at 269, Regent Street, price 1d. As this address is close to Oxford Circus, it will be found a Central Depot.

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