

AN ENQUIRY.

15, St. Domingo Grove, Liverpool.
October 21st, 1889.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Can you give me any information respecting the nurses from Johannesburg Hospital, mentioned in enclosed cutting? Miss Young is the Matron, and my husband's sister, Lucinda Archer, holds the post next to her, so we are very anxious about her, and will be most grateful if you can tell us anything respecting this cutting. The nurses had fully determined to stick to their posts, no matter what happened, and something very unexpected has evidently occurred. Every week for three years we have sent the NURSING RECORD to my sister, and it just occurred to me that you might be able to give us some information, as you are in connection with the nursing world.

Believe me, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
FLORRIE ARCHER.

The cutting referred to runs as follows:—

"Lourenco Marques, Friday.—The town is crowded with refugees, for whom there is no accommodation. They have to sleep in the open air, and as many as 1,000 are stranded in a penniless condition. Most of the refugees are English, and have no chance of getting away. The inhabitants are unable to cope with the distress, and immediate assistance is required to enable the refugees to leave. All hospital nurses expelled from Johannesburg have arrived.—REUTER."

[We have pleasure in giving publicity to this letter, hoping that thereby our correspondent may receive the information she seeks. Will any of our readers who know anything of these nurses kindly communicate with Mrs. Archer at the above address.—ED.]

A NURSES' FUND.

The Hospital, Blaenavon, Mon.
October 19th, 1899.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am quite sure that all nurses will sympathise with the appeal made by the Red Cross Society in aid of the wounded, also that of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales on behalf of the wives and children of soldiers. An appeal has been made to the Matrons of thirteen of the largest hospitals in Great Britain, asking them to organise a Nurses' Fund to be directed between these two objects. Could the idea be made known to the general nursing world by means of your valuable paper? Yours faithfully,

ISABEL RODENHUETH.

[As there is a general Red Cross fund for the wounded to which all nurses, if they have desire and means, can contribute, we do not think a special fund is necessary, especially as nurses are a class of women who give largely of their health and strength to the sick every day, and are, as a rule, very inadequately paid for their valuable services. Some of the enormous wealth possessed by the minority in England should be, and no doubt will be, most generously given for the benefit of our brave soldiers and their families, as it is their devotion to their Queen and country that makes it possible for Englishmen to possess the largest share of wealth in the world.—ED.]

HERO WORSHIP.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—Twice lately in your interesting and valuable paper I have seen Mr. Cecil Rhodes, described as a "misogynist." May I quote a few remarks made by him in a speech at Cape Town, after his return there last July. This speech was read by me in the *Cape Times* of July 26th. Mr. Rhodes said: "I regret having been described by various organs of the press as a woman-hater. I deprecate any such attribute because I should always be the first to recognise and appreciate the value of women in nearly every sphere of life. Women appear to grasp the general idea of political and social movements far more readily than men." Allow me also to say that I have heard of instances in which Mr. Rhodes has set an example of courtesy towards women which many men who are *not* misogynists would do well to imitate.

I am, dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
A HOSPITAL MATRON WHO IS A HERO WORSHIPPER

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I should like to make a few suggestions to *Private Nurses* as to the way in which they can add to their patient's comfort and make their own work more easy, and I should be very grateful if others would give me hints through our RECORD. Since commencing private nursing I have provided myself with the following articles, which I find a great boon.

1. *A portable electric bell*, with at least twelve yards of wire attached, the handle can then be placed within reach of the patient's hand, the wire put *over* the top of the door will allow the bell to stand in the nurse's room, be it on the same floor or above, if the latter, twine the wire up the bannisters; by this arrangement draughts are avoided, also danger of anyone falling over the wire, and yet patients can communicate easily with their nurse. In cases where it is only necessary for a nurse to attend to her patient once or twice in the night, it enables her to get her rest without always being on the *qui vive*. These bells can be had at a moderate cost of 18s. from Messrs. Bailey and Co., Oxford Street.

2. *A small brass kettle* and spirit lamp, holding a breakfast cup of water, sufficient to make a cup of tea, reheat a hot bottle, or make a fomentation. It is so often in the early hours of the morning that these things are required, and cannot be obtained until the house is astir.

3. *A small bed table*, the only means whereby patients can have their food comfortably placed in front of them. Such tables are not cumbersome, as the legs unscrew, and they lie flat in a trunk. These can be got at any invalid furniture shop, costing 7s. 6d.

4. *An air cushion* is handy when a patient may sit up in bed, as it supports the back of the head better than an ordinary pillow.

Speaking from experience I am confident that any private nurse having once given these things a trial, will realize their true value.

Yours faithfully,
EDITH MATHEW LANNOWE.

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