

she possesses courage and endurance, as well as intelligence and sympathy."

We should advise the writer of this paragraph to turn his (or is it her?) attention to helping nurses to obtain legal registration, instead of levelling wholesale abuse at the members of an honourable profession. Trained nurses have for the last decade been pointing out to the public the need of Registration in order that properly qualified and reputable women may be distinguished from those who are neither one nor the other. The publication of the medical register has been of the greatest benefit to the public in enabling them to discriminate between the real and the bogus medical man. If, moreover, any charge is brought against one who is ostensibly a medical practitioner, the members of the medical profession are not slow to point out the fact if his name does not appear on their professional register. The delinquent may be a fraud, or he may be a fully qualified medical man, whose name, for disciplinary reasons, has been removed from this register. The public will remember that at the time of the trial of Dr. Collins, the fact of his previous removal from the register was proclaimed far and wide, and the medical profession was not held responsible for his misdeeds. Trained nurses have no such protection. Their uniform is assumed by persons who have never been inside a hospital. Unprofessional persons send out as private nurses semi-trained women, and those who have been rejected by hospitals as unsuitable. Looked on merely in the light of a commercial transaction the services of such persons are cheaper, and therefore the profit to the employer greater than when the fully trained and certificated nurse is engaged. And the public and medical men stand by and do not insist on the establishment of a register which would at once reveal the identity of the bogus nurse. Too often also as in the present instance, they abuse the nursing profession as a whole. It would be wiser, as regards their own interests as well as more just to trained nurses if they turned their attention to obtaining the necessary legislation.

PLUCK.

Is there any reason for supposing that women are deficient in pluck? It would seem as if there were a very general opinion that the average woman does not possess this attribute, as there is such a chorus of surprised exclamation whenever she demonstrates it. An examina-

tion of facts will however show that women, as a rule, when exposed to danger prove themselves quite as courageous as men. That they are more tender hearted as regards inflicting pain on others is true, and there are, probably, only a limited number of women who would make good soldiers, but they have never been backward in exposing themselves personally to danger should the occasion demand it. We publish in this issue the account of a French nun whose bravery in the presence of danger was conspicuous. Recently it was stated that the women at Ladysmith, while shells were bursting on the ground, traversed the streets as calmly as if no cannon were within hundred a miles of them. Miss Teresa McGrath, who rendered great service to the wounded at Fort Gulistan, where she was repeatedly under fire, affords another instance of the bravery of women, and now a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps writes of two sisters on the hospital train which took the wounded down from Graspan to Cape Town, Miss Rose-Innes and Miss de Montmorency, that they are "two of the pluckiest women alive. They do not mind the bullets one bit, and attend the wounded as though they were in the ward." While duly appreciating the courage of these Sisters we venture to think that there are few members of the nursing profession who would not demonstrate the same courage under similar circumstances. Over and over again instances of the readiness of nurses to expose themselves to danger have occurred. They have amply proved their right to attend the wounded wherever wounded are to be found, and we must say that we consider the present tendency to restrict the services of the Sisters to the base hospitals, and to place the wounded in the field hospitals under the care of semi-trained, or untrained men is neither just to our soldiers, nor to the members of the Army Nursing Service. The sick and wounded have a right to the services of fully-trained nurses. The nurses are ready to render the services needed. Who is responsible for withholding them?

THE MALARIAL MOSQUITO.

MAJOR Ross recently gave an interesting lecture on malaria and its relation to *Anopheles*. He demonstrated the difference between this and other forms of mosquito, and stated that it was only the female of the *Anopheles* which could in any way be associated with malaria. Major Ross is of opinion that malarial puddles may be greatly diminished, if not exterminated.

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