

[Life is very earnest, not to say *dull*, but why should we pounce upon and dissect all the dear, delightful, non-conventional things in life, and worry them to tatters? Every woman is the wiser and *better* for the knowledge, that somewhere out of sight there are hidden away packets of unconsidered trifles—yellow with age, may be—and to be quite *comme il faut*, neatly tied up with *faded* pink ribbons, in which someone, more than one, if you choose, has written it down that she is the loveliest (she must be the loveliest) and most beloved woman the world has ever seen. We are sorry for the woman, to say nothing of the man, who has never kissed and treasured such letters.—Ed.]

### Notices.

*In consequence of innumerable complaints, we would advise our readers in provincial towns to order their NURSING RECORD through Messrs. Smith & Son's Bookstall at the Railway Station. In case they have any difficulty in obtaining it in this manner each week, we shall be glad if they will write a post card to the Manager, at the NURSING RECORD Office, 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.*

### Comments and Replies.

*Army Nursing Sister.*—You will find the whole question most ably set forth by Mr. Burdett-Coutts in a book just issued—"The Sick and Wounded in South Africa," by Cassell and Co., price 1s. 6d. It is worth buying as it will

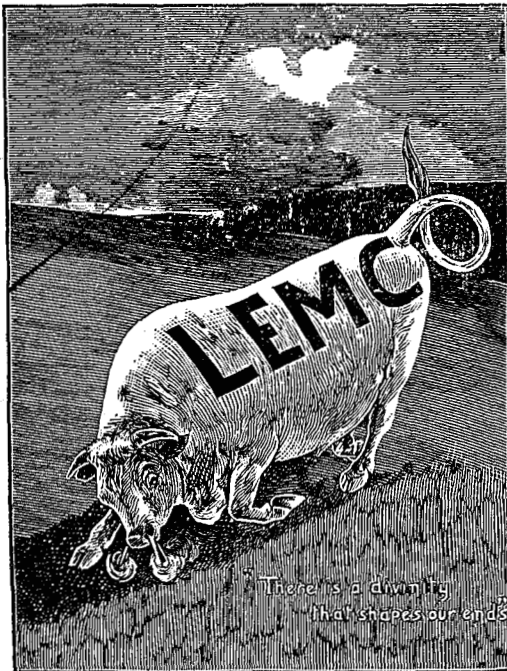
stand as a book of reference on Army nursing questions long after all the hubbub of party politicians has been silenced by the contempt it deserves—So glad you have bought Dock's *Materia Medica*, it is quite invaluable to nurses.

*"Probationer," Sheffield.*—Get Hoblyn's dictionary, price 10s. 6d., published by Whitaker and Co.

*Mrs. G. J., Lowestoft.*—Obtain a copy of "How to be trained as a Hospital Nurse," 1s. 2d. post free from our office, 11, Adam Street, Strand. If the lady you mention is not very strong a seaside hospital would no doubt enable her to pass through her training whereas she might break down in London. The one advantage of a well organised country hospital is that the probationers and nurses have to perform certain duties which do not come within the scope of their duties where there is a medical school, and where the students pay for these privileges. Big dressings are daily done by country nurses, the care of surgical instruments is included in their work, many learn to dispense, and invaluable experience is gained in the out-patient department. Discipline is often less strict in the country, from the fact that the best discipline is maintained by the nurses themselves, and the larger the school the more chance a probationer has of finding her level. It is like a big public school, and a sensible girl benefits immensely from being put in her place by her seniors, common sense and ability is sure to win the day in the end, in the estimation of her colleagues, but very wisely "side" is taboo in a first class nursing school, it is a minature republic—or should be.

*Mrs. B. Cheltenham.*—A children's nurse is not as a rule expected to take charge of an infant until it is a month old, this duty is usually undertaken by the monthly nurse, and rightly so, for training and experience are necessary in one who is entrusted with so responsible a task, and this the ordinary nurse does not possess.

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