

Letters to the Editor.

NOTES, QUERIES. &c.



Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

REPRESENTATION AT THE NURSES' CONGRESS.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am so pleased to notice in your journal that Guy's Hospital Nurses will be officially represented at the Nurses' Congress at Buffalo, so that with Barts. and Leicester, the Nurse Training Schools will not go by default. At the next International Congress, whenever it is held, we may hope to see the Training Schools, other than those mentioned, aroused to some sense of professional responsibility. I believe this gathering at Buffalo will be an eye opener, and do no end of good, and if Great Britain is not sending quantity, at all events the quality of our delegates is of the best, and after all it is the units and not the masses which tell. May you, dear Editor, have a "real good time."

Yours ever,

"A GUY'S NURSE AND CONSTANT READER."

THE DISPOSAL OF WOUNDED IN NAVAL ACTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I see it stated in the *Morning Post* that the suggestion of a service of Hospital Ships for our sick and wounded sailors and soldiers was first advocated in that paper in 1899. Surely this question was ventilated in the RECORD long before that date, as has been nearly every other nursing reform hashed up for the benefit of the daily press by up-to-date journalists. But no doubt you are quite willing to have your ideas spread abroad, if by this means they are adopted. I was glad to notice that the RECORD's suggestion that a Nursing Department should be inaugurated at the Local Government Board was advocated by the Deputation from the Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association to the Local Government Board last week. You must indeed often be gratified to see your suggestions advocated.

Yours truly,

"RENDER TO CÆSAR, ETC."

[We are deeply gratified to find that our views and suggestions commend themselves to others. We are quite content to sow the seed; power is not given to one human being to suggest reforms, and accomplish them by personal effort. All we want is that the thing gets done.—ED.]

NURSING UNIFORM IN THE DOCK.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I see in the paper that a witness

who appeared in the box in an apron and rolled up shirt sleeves, was ordered by the Magistrate to go and put on his coat and make himself tidy before presenting his petition, and also that Mr. Garrett, the magistrate at the South-Western Police Court, in passing sentence on Maria Williams, a swindler masquerading in nursing uniform, drew attention to the cruel wrong done to the nursing profession by the assumption of their uniform by criminals.

Now, if a magistrate can order a witness to dress himself decently, surely he can also order that no criminal shall appear in the dock in our professional dress. Would it be possible for the Matrons' Council, which is the only society apparently alive to the dignity of our profession, to memorialise the Metropolitan Magistrates on this important question. Fancy if all the Hooligan gangs and knaves in London made a practice of appearing in the criminal dock in soldiers' uniform or a clergyman's coat and choker, would it not be instantly stopped—then why are nurses to be brought into disrepute as we are by this heartless fraud. I hope some nurses have written and thanked Mr. Garrett for his good feeling on their behalf.

Yours truly,

"ONE WHO FINDS UNIFORM ECONOMICAL."

OLDHAM INFIRMARY.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—My attention has been drawn to your "Par." in your issue of the 17th inst., under the head of "Reflections," wherein you state that it has been decided to erect an additional wing to the Oldham Infirmary giving accommodation for *twelve* patients. This should be fifty-three more beds, *forty-two of which are for patients.*

Your figures *re* finance are quite right, but the £1,000, said to have been given by the workpeople, is part of a sum collected from the mills, etc., some months ago, and is but an instalment of a further sum to be subsequently paid. This money has been raised by the Hospital Saturday Committee of the town, and is quite apart from a sum of £1,800 raised for the general purposes of the Institution. The sum of £1,000, mentioned in yours, should have read "*in addition to £1,000, paid over by the workpeople, a further sum of £1,000 has been received this week from Messrs. Platt, Brothers and Co., Limited, making a total of £3,000 received from this firm.*"

You mention Mr. Barlow as being the Hon. Secretary. This should be *A. Nicholson, Esq., Town Clerk, Oldham*, who is acting for the Town's Jubilee Committee, who are entrusted to carry out the commemoration of our late beloved Queen's record reign, by an extension to the Infirmary.

Yours sincerely,

E. LIONEL BLAKE,
Secretary.

August 19th, 1901.

POST GRADUATE WORK.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am a private nurse, and I have been trying in vain to get a few months' active work as staff nurse in a good general hospital during holiday time; it seems impossible. Can anyone advise me?

Yours truly,

"SOMEWHAT RUSTY."

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