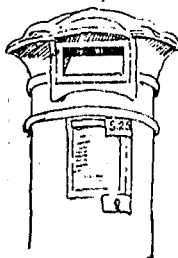


Letters to the Editor.

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.

OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."
The Infirmary,
Kingston-on-Thames,
March 16th, 1902.

Miss H. Maud Garwood (Sister) begs to acknowledge with many thanks the cheque for £1 is. for the Prize Puzzle for last month.

SIR JULIAN GOLDSMID'S HOME OF REST FOR NURSES.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM.—Alter eleven busy years, during which hundreds of nurses have visited the above Home, the Committee have closed it for a month to cleanse and put it in thorough repair; pretty papers etc. have been chosen, and in a few weeks all within and without will be bright and speckless, and ready for another decade of hospitality. May I be permitted through your valuable journal to suggest to those nurses whose grateful expressions of thanks have been received in great numbers, that many little things are needed to complete our arrangements and make the Home as homelike and beautiful as we like it to be. I shall be happy to receive knick-knacks such as no doubt many friends will have pleasure in sending, such as new photo-frames, sofa-cushions, new bed spreads, etc., or if small donations are sent I will expend them to the best advantage for the general use and comfort. Hoping for a generous response.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
KATE MCINTYRE,
Matron.

12, Sussex Square,
Brighton.

PROFESSIONAL PHILANTHROPY.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I learn that a casual remark by Dr. Cooper, at the recent General Court of this Hospital, has led to an injurious misunderstanding on the part of persons who are unfamiliar with the facts and with the speaker. I refer to his assertion that "the £100 spent on Sir Henry Burdett's Report" had been very ill spent. This has been taken to imply that Sir Henry received a fee of this amount for his advice to the Governors. As a matter of fact Sir Henry received no fee or honorarium of any kind. He not only placed his time and experience at the service of the Hospital, but at the end of the enquiry he made a donation of £21 to the General Fund, and thereby became a Life Governor. The net cost to the Hospital of the clerical

assistance employed in preparing the elaborate and instructive analyses of the accounts appended to the Report was £14.

I am, etc.,

DONALD MACALISTER,

Chairman of the Special Committee appointed to consider Sir Henry Burdett's Report.

Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Cambridge,
10th March, 1902.

[We accept Dr. Donald MacAlister's correction of the statement reported to have been made by Dr. Cooper in the *Cambridge Daily News*. But we regret to learn that Dr. MacAlister's statements are inaccurate, and therefore misleading. His letter conveys the impression that Sir Henry Burdett not only received nothing from the hospital, but also that he gave a donation of twenty guineas to its General Fund out of his own pocket. The truth is that Sir Henry Burdett received a cheque for £36 15s. from the hospital. His donation of £21 gave him the privileges of a Life Governor, privileges which various Hospital Secretaries could inform Dr. MacAlister are in Sir Henry Burdett's case neither barren nor unprofitable. Anyhow the net cost to Addenbrooke's Hospital of the useless and most troublesome Report of Sir Henry Burdett was £15 15s., not £14 as stated by Dr. MacAlister. A careful reading of his own letter will, we feel confident, convince Dr. MacAlister of the gravely erroneous impression it is calculated to convey; and we assume that he will immediately write to Sir Henry Burdett's paper, the *Hospital*, to correct that impression by stating the actual facts of the case. He might usefully add that to carry out Sir Henry Burdett's suggestions would have required the Hospital to obtain a special Act of Parliament. Ed.]

SURFACE NURSING.

To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I read with great interest the article in last week's NURSING RECORD on the Waltham Nursing School, and was specially interested in your account of "Surface Nursing," as practised there. It is a department of our work which at present is not well taught or practised in our general hospitals, and, from experience, I find, with the utmost vigilance, it is difficult to enforce the nicety of care with regard to the attention to hair, nails, and teeth, which one wishes to have given. Partly I suppose because these details take time, and the results are not showy, and so they are scamped and neglected. Personally I like all the patients to brush their teeth once a day, or to have them cleansed for them. It seems to me this is the minimum amount of attention consistent with cleanliness, but I am well aware that there is much comment on the part of fresh nurses as to "Sister's fads," and I am assured that in the majority of wards the patients' teeth receive no attention from the time they come in to the time they go out. "They never brush them at home, so why should they here?" I am asked. They may never wash at home, but that is no reason why they should not be clean here, I answer. How does it strike your readers?

Faithfully yours,
A FADDY SISTER.

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