

stage of labour, and a weak feeling that arises from the removal of the foetal pressure upon the intestines, it is a great relief for a woman to feel the support, comfort and warmth of a well-applied binder and compresses; and hence we may safely say that the pelvic and abdominal advantages of the obstetric binder are most valuable, and my readers will see that if I rather lorded it over the poor binder at first, I shall become its most humble servant at the finish. Personally, I owe the binder much, but my modesty and memory would quite prevent my repeating a hundredth part of the kind and complimentary things that my patients have said to me on the subject of binding; and although there is the widest divergence in our views on the subject, they never disturb the harmony of our relations; and the fact that the praise is entirely in a *wrong* direction never prevents my appropriating my well-earned *right* to it.

(To be continued.)

### MR. BARNARDO AND SISTER CLARA.

THIS brought forth some further evidence of the "growth" of the correspondence, as the letter given below, written on *eight* pages, abundantly testifies:—

"18 to 26, Stepney Causeway,  
London, E.

"8th May, 1889.

"Dear Sister Clara,—I write at once on receipt of your letter just handed me to say that you are completely in error, both as to your facts and impressions. First, I had no interview with you on January 13.<sup>(1)</sup> Second, I never did stipulate, either verbally or in writing, to give three months' notice, and I am bound to say that if any such note as you allege in your letter appears in your diary, *it has been written in since*,<sup>(2)</sup> and was not written at the time, for when I wrote you a week ago asking you upon what authority you made the statement of 'three months' notice,' you could not give it to me.<sup>(3)</sup> Had you had it *then* in your diary, you would, no doubt, have written to me at once. I regret to say I cannot, and will not, accept the afterthought.

"Moreover, I have proved that no such thing could have been done, because it is clear, from the correspondence which now lies before me, that your engagement was made *in writing*,<sup>(4)</sup> in letters between us, and that the questions of salary, holidays, &c., were all settled, not in interviews, but in writing.

"You came to me on the 23rd of December, 1884, for one month. That month expired on the 23rd January, 1885. On the 10th January you wrote to remind me that the month would

expire, and to offer<sup>(5)</sup> me your services on certain terms, stipulating especially that you were to be paid at the rate of £60 a-year. I may add, in that letter of the 10th January you begin by saying, 'It seems impossible to get an interview with you, so I must write.' On the 21st January, 1885, *eight days after your alleged interview*, at which you say I settled that you were to remain on those terms, you write thus:—'You are aware, I suppose, that the month I agreed to come to the Infirmary expires on Friday next, the 23rd.' At the end of that letter you ask me to send you some money, as you are short. *At foot of that letter, in my handwriting, is an instruction to the Accountants to draw a cheque at once for you, and to enter you as engaged as the Matron of the Infirmary, dating from the 23rd January, at £60 a-year.* Had a settlement been made, as you allege, on the 13th of January, the instruction would have gone the same day to the Accountant. That it was written at foot of your letter, dated the 21st, shows clearly that it was only *after receiving that letter that I concluded the engagement with you*, and this is fully borne out by the remainder of the correspondence on both sides. More I will not now say, except that my decision is irrevocable, and you *must leave* on the 12th. As to your sister, I am under no obligation to retain her until then, and it is simply as a matter of courtesy that I allow her to remain until you go. She is not my *employée*,<sup>(6)</sup> and she must leave when I think proper.

"You will, of course, take such steps concerning yourself and your departure as you may be advised to take; but I warn you that under no circumstances will I allow you to remain, and that having received due notice from me, you will remain after Saturday at your peril.

"To-morrow morning I will place the whole correspondence in the hands of my solicitors, and take such steps as may be necessary to protect the interests of the Institutions.

"That you should *compel*<sup>(7)</sup> me to do so after your recent action is in harmony, I regret to say, with all that I have seen of your spirit and conduct. But as in this matter you are in the wrong, and I am in the right,<sup>(8)</sup> as you are fighting for your own interests, and I am simply protecting the interests of my poor children, I shall not hesitate to take any step, *however public*, which may be necessary to put an end to the present state of things.

"When I remember that not only have I maintained your sister<sup>(9)</sup> for all these years, giving her board, lodging, laundress and medical attendance *for nothing*, and allowing her to reside with you, simply in order to be your companion, and when I remember also the other proofs I have given of

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