

A STANDING INJUSTICE.

A lady named Mrs. Hay-Coghlan last week obtained a divorce from her husband under peculiarly painful circumstances. The marriage took place in 1892 when the respondent was a medical student. Counsel stated that he gave way to drink, and treated his wife with great cruelty. On his becoming qualified she bought him the share of a practice at Chiswick, hoping to reform him, but his conduct to her did not improve. While living at Chiswick he introduced into his house a "medical nurse" named Hilda Hanham, and persuaded his wife to allow her to remain, saying that the girl was a *protégée* whom he had got out of serious trouble.

Mrs. Hay-Coghlan soon discovered the relationship which existed between her husband and his *protégée*. She went to her mother for a time, and eventually her husband disappeared, but was traced to a house in the Vauxhall Bridge Road, where he lived with Miss Hanham. After hearing the evidence, Sir Francis Jeune granted a decree nisi with costs.

The frequent record in the Press of charges against women assuming the name of nurse is lowering the whole profession of nursing in the estimation of the public, while it is well known that almost invariably these women have received no training entitling them to the name they assume. Nurses have a right to demand that they shall have the means of knowing who are and who are not members of their profession by means of a State Register of Trained Nurses. At present they have no means of ascertaining whether Hilda Hanham is a nurse at all. Our lack of organisation is a standing injustice to our profession.

Motors for the Hospitals.

An unknown philanthropist has placed his automobile at the disposal of the authorities of the London Hospital, to take nurses or patients out for country drives on one afternoon a week. A member of the Automobile Club, on seeing the announcement to this effect, immediately communicated with another hospital offering the use of his car for the same purpose, and promising, further, that as soon as his new car, a 30 h.p. vehicle, is delivered, he will be pleased to send that also. As a result of these two offers the Automobile Club invites the membership generally to co-operate in a scheme for the provision of regular daily country outings all through the summer for hospital patients and staffs. The thought is a very kindly one, and, if the membership of the Club responds to the invitation, hospital patients will not only benefit physically from the excursions in the open air, but will receive a vast amount of pleasure.

American Nursing World.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NURSES' ASSOCIATED ALUMNÆ.

The sixth annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States was this year held in Boston. Eighty-five delegates responded to the roll called by the Secretary. The President, Miss Mary M. Riddle, of the Boston City Hospital, introduced Mrs. Ednah Dean Cheney, who delivered the address of welcome, and Mrs. Mary A. Livermore also addressed the Convention on "Nurses in the Civil War." A cordial invitation was extended to the "Nurses of the Army and Navy of the Civil War" in session in the same building to attend the Convention.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

It is with feelings of deepest pleasure that I open this first session of the sixth annual Convention of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States.

May we deliberate calmly, deal justly, and act wisely. May we here be enabled to maintain and extend that *esprit de corps* which all delegates have heretofore felt, and the effects of which they have taken from the Convention to their homes as an inspiration to buoy them up on the sea of difficulties where their arduous duties often place them. May the golden bond of kindred sympathies and good-fellowship be here strengthened to be broken never.

In responding to the welcome so heartily given to-day by Mrs. Cheney, we do so with feelings which do not permit us to suspend the deep acknowledgment of that debt of gratitude we owe her as one of the noble band of founders and more recent managers of the first school for nurses in this country. It has been her privilege to aid as well as witness the progress of the science of medicine and the art of nursing from the very inception of the latter. She has seen the province and the opportunities of the nursing service grow and enlarge, until to-day the usefulness of the trained nurse is recognised and her skill demanded in almost all places where civilised man has his abode or where the opposing forces of warring nations meet in conflict.

Mrs. Livermore, too, has an experimental knowledge of nurses and nursing affairs, and therefore speaks with authority, for before nursing-schools in America were even contemplated she was active in the work of that great organisation known to the world as the Sanitary Commission, which accomplished more than any other effort for the neutralisation, to some extent, of the awful and ghastly effects of one of the most disastrous wars of the nineteenth century.

Since they have thus followed and shared in the changes incident to the growth of the work in the interest of whose advancement we are here

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