



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.

NURSES AND THRIFT.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I decline to be drawn by "M. D. Brinton," as I do not admit her right to "cause to be thoroughly investigated" any statement I choose to make. Somehow her style seems strangely familiar, although I have not noted her signature before. Moreover, as a good sportswoman I should regret to deprive her of the pleasure of "hotly pursuing" her "quarry," who, I can assure her, has none of the characteristics of the "hare."

Yours truly,
INDEPENDENCE.

THE SICK POOR.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—Those who have followed the nursing controversy in connection with the Granard Union must feel sick at heart that the cause of efficient nursing suffers while these unseemly wrangles continue. All nurses must feel grateful to Dr. Kenny for the splendid fight he has made in the interests of the sick, and in spite of the assertion recently made by the Vice-Chairman of the Board, that "the Irish party would get the nuns back," I cannot but believe, thankless as his task seems, that his efforts will be productive of good results.—Yours faithfully,

LOOKER-ON.

NURSING HOMES AND INSTITUTES FOR PRIVATE NURSES.

To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—I am very pleased to learn from "Nursing Echoes" in your paper that at last doctors are beginning to look into the management of private nursing homes, and institutes for sending nurses out to private patients, and it certainly is not before it is necessary. I know of three flourishing nursing homes whose superintendents have had no training whatever, and only partly-trained nurses are employed. Think of the dreadful state of affairs that existed in hospitals in the time of untrained Matrons, and, unfortunately, still exists in so many workhouse infirmaries!

In one of these homes I hear (and on very good authority) that there is not a nurse in the house possessing a three years' certificate. I believe they send to an institute if they have a bad operation case; but that is no criterion that they get a trained nurse, for I know of an institute where women called trained nurses are sent out to the public after having been in hospital only six weeks, the principals taking from two to three guineas a week for their services.

Surely if the doctors have no time to look into these matters the public should do so for themselves, for

their lives are in the hands of these unscrupulous women, and something ought to be done to stop such dreadful imposition.

Masseuses, too, at least a great number of them, have had no real training. One young woman that I happened to come across just a short time ago told me she did not think it necessary to have training for massage, that she gets on quite as well as those who hold a good certificate, and that the doctors never question her as to her training.

I am sure those knowing these facts will acknowledge how very essential it is that they should do all in their power to help forward the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, for their own benefit (for who knows how soon they may need a nurse?) as well as in the interests of the general public.

Believe me, Madam,
Yours truly,
A. I. N.

Comments and Replies.

Sister E. C. McGill, Gosport.—We are informed by the publishers, Messrs. William Blackwood and Sons, that Part II. of "Practical Nursing," by Miss Isla Stewart and Dr. H. E. Cuff, is not yet published, and they are at present unable to say when it will be ready.

Convalescent.—Apply to the Matron, Sir Julian Goldsmid's Home of Rest for Nurses, 12, Sussex Square, Brighton. Convalescents from infectious diseases cannot, of course, be admitted, but others are eligible. The terms are 25s. a week for a separate bedroom, or 21s. when a double-bedded room is occupied.

Mrs. Williams.—The nursing of the middle classes is a difficult problem, and no adequate solution has yet been found. It certainly does not lie in depreciating the market value of the services of a trained nurse. She has, as a rule, not only to maintain herself during her working days, but to make provision for the days when she can work no longer. Daily visiting nursing meets the needs of a certain section of the middle classes, but not in those cases where the entire services of a nurse are necessary. Probably some scheme of insurance against illness approximating to the provident clubs of the working classes may eventually be found expedient.

Notices.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The annual report of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has been published, and can be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, price 1½d., post free, or 7d. for six copies. All nurses should obtain a copy of this report, and acquaint themselves with the history and progress of the Registration movement. Application forms for membership of the Society can be obtained from the same address.

OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle Prize will be found on Advertisement page VIII.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)