

Honorary Officer who could not conscientiously carry out his duty to the Society would instantly resign. It would be the only honourable course for him to pursue, and it happens every day. But if he worked against his Society, and attempted at the same time to retain office in it, what would happen? Why, he would be "hoofed out" very speedily! His fellows would respect his resignation for conscience' sake. They would keenly resent his attempt to stick to office under false pretences. If nurses conduct their affairs as they are doing now and permit themselves to be so contemptuously treated by the honorary officers they appoint they cannot wonder at outsiders being

SURPRISED.

#### A LONDONERS' LEAGUE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Why should "Londoners" depend upon a circular letter from any one person for "news" of their Alma Mater? Why do we not have a League, with our own journal, like our colleagues at Bart's and Guy's? Some of us would not then be made to feel rank outsiders because we may happen to approve of Registration. In America the graduates of a school form and govern their own Alumnae Association; there is no reason why we should not do so in England if the Matron of a hospital will not take the lead. Of course, it makes things much more smooth if she is in sympathy with co-operation; but a Londoners' League would be bound to go ahead once started.—Yours very truly,

A CERTIFICATED LONDONER.

[We fear until Registration is in force, there is little hope of such a League. It ought to have been formed long ago.—ED.]

#### A QUESTION FOR THE PUBLIC.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It is a very good sign that such women as Lady Helen Munro Ferguson and the Marchioness of Londonderry are beginning to arouse interest in the necessity of protection for the public by State Registration of Trained Nurses, as we nurses, most of us dependent upon what we earn, cannot afford to come into collision with the Committees and Matrons of our schools; and wherever the Committee and the Matron combine—as they are doing in eight out of the twelve large London hospitals—to oppose reform, they practically gag the nursing staff. It is no good pretending it is otherwise, and it is all nonsense London Hospital nurses writing as if they were free agents; they are no such thing, unless they choose to offend those in whose employ they earn a living. I hope the public are beginning to realise how helpless we are against employers.—Yours truly,

ONE WHO CANNOT AFFORD TO OFFEND.

#### FLOGGING IN THE NAVY.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The admission of Lord Selborne, that he "does not propose to reply" to the communication of the Humanitarian League on flogging in the Navy, may be taken as signifying to some extent a disregard of the best interests of the Service, and as a sign that there is a lack of official justification for the continuance of such a degrading and loathsome punishment. But there are not wanting indications

that the Government will shortly have seriously to consider the question, and relieve the young men of the Navy of the disgraceful treatment which is no longer possible in the Army. Many people have long thought there should have been a move in the direction of its abolition by the Admiralty long ago, because the practice—now that public opinion for some time has been more aware of its use—is likely to discredit the Service mischievously, and seriously to affect its efficiency.

When the "ragging" scandal was so prominently before the public a year ago, the highest official in the Army publicly characterised the indecent punishment of a boy for a petty offence by flogging as "a most disgusting punishment." If that is so in the Army, what makes it otherwise in the Navy? It would appear that this aspect of the question, with others not less important, Lord Selborne is not desirous of considering.—Yours, &c.,

ROBERT HENDERSON.

Golden Sands, Stanhope.

### Comments and Replies.

*Provincial Matron.*—The arrangements in some of the London hospital mortuaries now are very good. Those at the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road, and the London Homœopathic Hospital are well worth a visit. The mortuary linen at the latter institution is specially noteworthy.

*Obstetric Nurse.*—Hæmorrhage from the umbilicus of an infant after separation of the cord should be controlled by a firm pad, pending the arrival of a medical man. A section of a cork from a jar of Liebig's Extract makes a firm basis. It should be covered with sterilised wool and gauze, lint, or other suitable material.

*Three Years' Certificate.*—We are always glad to consider articles of nursing interest. A stamped envelope should be enclosed for the return of an article if not accepted.

*Enquirer.*—Membership of the Matrons' Council is open to women who are or have been Matrons of Hospitals, and Superintendents of Nursing Institutions who are trained nurses.

*Private Nurse.*—The charts may be obtained from Wodderspoon and Co., Gate Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. You can obtain specimens of them by writing for them, post free.

### Notices.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Editor will at all times be pleased to consider articles of a suitable nature for insertion in this journal—those on practical nursing are specially invited. The Editor will also be pleased to receive paragraphs, such as items of nursing news, results of nurses' examinations, new appointments, reports of hospital functions, also letters on questions of interest to nurses, and newspapers marked with reports of matters of professional interest.

Such communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

#### OUR PRIZE PUZZLE.

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

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)