

Maria did not know there is "only one Kensington by Divine right." "A Kensington which shivers at the thought of plush, and has probably never heard of Tottenham Court Road." Now, in the last-named thoroughfare poor Maria's soul is vexed to discover whether she prefers Chippendale to New Art.

"I can't imagine, she said, thoughtfully, why everything that is hard is high art. When furniture is comfortable, it is not high art. I can tell it by that."

Diana is a great anxiety to her; she is fat, and writes poetry. "You know she has been a trial to me ever since she was baptised. I expected, at least, she would be thin, but to call her Diana, and have her grow stouter and stouter. Isn't it awful? . . . I only wish I could convince her what a drawback it is to a girl to look too intelligent. Men are so afraid of intelligent girls; that is the reason, I suppose, that the women who want to vote are mostly unmarried or widows."

"I daresay," and Maria propounded this as an unanswerable theological argument, "that's the way the world will end. All the women will vote, and then the men will be afraid to marry them, and so by and by that will be the end of it."

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

April 22nd.—Society for the State Registration of Nurses: Meeting of Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, 4 p.m.

April 22nd.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Vaedictory on the late President by Miss Mollett, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 5 p.m.

April 23rd.—Nurses' Missionary League. The Eighth Annual Conference and Meeting, University Hall, Gordon Square, London, W.C., 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

April 26th.—Guy's Hospital, S.E. Post Graduate Lectures. "Recent Surgery." By E. C. Hughes, Esq., M.C. Nurses' Home, 8 p.m.

April 27th to 30th.—Third Annual Nursing and Midwifery Exhibition and Conference, Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 12 to 9 p.m.

April 28th.—Examination of Central Midwives Board at the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C. The Oral Examination follows a few days later.

April 28th.—Union of Midwives. A Musical Entertainment, Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer Street, Regent Street, W. 7.30 p.m.

April 29th.—Guy's Hospital Nurses' League. Annual Meeting and second Annual Dinner. Nurses' Home, 7 p.m.

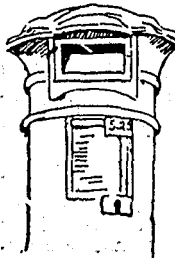
April 30th.—Meeting to consider Memorial to Miss Isla Stewart, Clinical Lecture Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., 3 p.m.

WORDS FOR THE WEEK.

Had the "old man" never failed in his obligations there would never have been the "new woman."

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

Letters to the Editor.



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.

THE TEACHING OF NURSING BY NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I have read with interest the correspondence in your valuable paper on nurses giving the nursing lectures to the women of the voluntary aid detachments. The objection that nurses have not time does not hold good however in the case of nurses on the staff of County Councils, whose sole duty it is to teach nursing, first aid, hygiene, etc., and to coach students for the County Council examinations. The Surrey County Council's examination standard is undoubtedly a higher one than is that of the St. John's, while the Council's lecture courses are nearly always twice and frequently three times the duration of those of the latter. The St. John's lecturers, though, of course, excellent as doctors, are in many cases men who have little knowledge, if any, of teaching, and it is a common occurrence for holders of the St. John's certificates to apply to members of the County Council Staff for *real instruction* in the subjects (first aid and nursing) for which they already hold certificates. Recently, in trying to enrol County Council certificate holders in a V.A.D. Corps, I was told that no certificate but a St. John's or St. Andrew's would be accepted, and the candidates were requested to attend at least four out of five lectures which would be given by a St. John's lecturer, and to pass the St. John's examination before they could be enrolled. Is it not strange that four lessons should be considered sufficient to qualify a student in first aid? and yet this is the amount of instruction offered by the St. John's Association to non-County Council certificate holders before they can be accepted as members of the V.A.D. I may add that the Surrey County Council offered to submit their students to examination by a St. John's examiner, but this was refused.

I am,

Faithfully yours,

M. STAPYLTON

(Lecturer on the Staff of the S.C.C.).

20, Mortlake Road, Kew, Surrey.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Your correspondent, Miss Elizabeth Brunning, is, as you justly say, not a trained nurse; therefore I consider her opinion in regard to medical men *versus* trained nurses as teachers of nursing does not carry much weight. It might interest her to know that every trained nurse is not always nursing the sick, as she seems to imagine. There are many nurses well qualified for teaching, who through various causes are not.

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