

regime at St. Bartholomew's. Not a very inspiring influence for its nursing staff.

Yours faithfully,

FLORENCE GARRATT,
An Old Bart's Nurse.

[This letter was unavoidably held over last week.—Ed.]

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

DEAR MADAM,—All who have been interested in the circumstances which led to the appointment of a Matron at St. Bartholomew's who has not had a three years' course of training, will admit, I am sure, that this act of ignorance and prejudice on the part of those responsible for it has achieved what they never meant or expected—namely, it has given a great impetus to the cause of State Registration, and no doubt has brought it, in spite of continued hostility, considerably nearer.

In this case, if we cannot call it a blessing in disguise, undisguised blessings will result from it. No. 1.—"The Defence of Nursing Standards Committee." The following story is another illustration—if any more were needed—of the urgent necessity for the organisation of the nursing profession:—

A little boy, aged 11, had undergone an operation for appendicitis; he appeared to recover nicely from the operation. After a while various unfavourable symptoms appeared. The nurse in charge told the poor, distracted mother that "mortification had set in, and that the child would soon be gone"!!! and began to busy herself in clearing away the sick-room requisites in a way that is only done after the patient has passed away. The doctor had ordered morphine; she administered more than was ordered, which naturally so angered him that he sent her away. It transpired afterwards that the trouble and continued rise of temperature were largely due to such serious neglect of the bowels that stoppage occurred. When that mischief was overcome the child began to recover.

It seems to me that we might get on faster with this great reform—State Registration for Nurses—if the public, especially those persons—and there must be very many—who have suffered from the anxiety and trouble of an incompetent nurse, would co-operate with us and form themselves into a league and demand for their own safeguard this most important measure. A society for the protection of the public against the cruelties of the counterfeit "nurse" is urgently needed!

Why does not a deputation of men and women among the laity wait upon the Prime Minister and demand legislation?

I remain,

Yours truly,
BEATRICE KENT.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSION TO HOP-PICKERS.

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

MADAM,—May I, by your usual kindness, appeal to your many readers and especially to those who reside or have property in the great Metropolis, for their aid in the work of the Church of England

Mission to Hop-Pickers of ministering socially and spiritually to the many thousands of men, women, and children, for the most part hailing from London, who are our temporary parishioners for three weeks or a month during September, for the hop-picking.

Our work on their behalf dates from 1877, and has gradually grown from the employment of three or four evangelists to over one hundred and fifty, embracing clergy, lay evangelists, trained nurses, and lady workers.

Our temporary hospitals are of the greatest value and many hundreds of patients yearly testify to their need.

Tea and coffee stalls and barrows minister to the bodily comfort of the pickers, and marquees and tents are used for services, Sunday schools, Bands of Hope, and social work, open air lantern services attracting large numbers of the people. But although many of our workers only accept board and lodging, our expenditure last year was £334, the parishes we were engaged in numbering thirty, and the immigrant hop-pickers ministered to fifty thousand.

I therefore hope I may confidently claim from your readers their support of this valuable social and spiritual work. Subscriptions and donations forwarded to me will be thankfully acknowledged, and also sound illustrated literature, and old linen for bandages, the supply of which is never equal to the demand.

I am, Madam, gratefully yours,

FRANCIS G. OLIPHANT,
Rector of Teston, Maidstone,
Hon. Sec. of the C. of E. Mission
to Hop-Pickers.

P.S.—Parcels to Watlingbury Station.

Notices.

The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is the official organ of the following important Nursing societies:—

- The International Council of Nurses.
- The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.
- The Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.
- The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.
- The Registered Nurses' Society.
- The School Nurses' League.

As their official organ is widely read by the members of these societies, the Editor will at all times be pleased to find space for items of news from the Secretaries and members.

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.

OUR PUZZLE PRIZE.

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

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