

A National Convention in support of the Women's Suffrage Conciliation Bill will be held at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., on May 3rd, at 3 p.m. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., will be in the chair. Representative speakers of the National Union of Women Suffrage Societies from all parts of the United Kingdom, and delegates from all the societies of the National Union, are convened to sign a Resolution to be sent to the Prime Minister and to the Members of Parliament, before the Second Reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill on May 5th.

We hope every good suffragist who reads this journal will make every effort to be present. A long pull and a strong pull is what we want at this most eventful moment.

A True Little Tale.

A CHILD OF NATURE.

He was standing before the window, and so was she. He was a navvy, and a very marly one. She was a nurse, and very clean and trim. Easter eggs of all colours beguiled them. The whole window was full of them. For the nurse what more natural? She was computing how far the contents of her slender purse could be depended upon to satisfy the demands of the babes in her ward, and whether chocolate fish or specked sugar eggs or fluffy yellow chicks would prove the more delectable. But the marly man? Ah! some sick child at home no doubt!

Down went his hand into his breeches pocket, and up came some scanty pence. He pointed to a huge chocolate egg half a yard in circumference. "What price?" he asked laconically.

"Oh! we cannot afford that," gasped the nurse, "but if I may send your little child—"

"Child!" he repeated with a loud guffaw, "Blime me—it's this 'ere child as wants that hegg, and why for no?"

Why for no, indeed?

He walked away with it.

The little nurse also had to walk home.

E. G. F.

COMING EVENTS.

April 25th.—Irish Nurses' Association, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. Lecture on "The Ear and Nose," by Dr. Graham.

April 27th.—Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Meeting, Leicester Infirmary, Business, Short Paper for Discussion, "The Work of a Central Nursing Council," by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. 3 p.m.

April 28th.—Guy's Hospital Past and Present Nurses' League. Annual Dinner. Miss Swift (formerly Matron) in the chair, 7 p.m. Annual Meeting, 8 p.m.

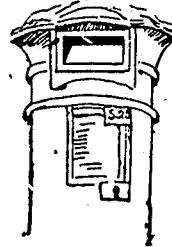
May 4th.—The Magpie Madrigal Society's Concert in aid of the Hammersmith and Fulham District Nursing Association. Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster. 8.30 p.m.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

It is the discernment of the possible and the impossible which distinguishes the hero from the adventurer.

Mommsen.

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 NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Many nurses will be grateful to Miss Mollett for voicing what must be the thought of all self-respecting members of the profession—Why should the pennies of soldiers be asked to provide old age pensions for women who, because they are women and skilled workers, are, alas! frequently only paid half the wage of the unskilled man, and yet nurses out of their small earnings, or savings, have to pay rates and taxes.

If the country feels qualms when it hears of nurses no longer able to work, starving in fireless attics, by all means make an effort to pay better for their skilled and indispensable work. Because nurses give so much aid for nothing, the people benefited do not seem eager to give of their wealth in return.

The usual element of male philanthropists voiced their ideas on the Mansion House platform on the 31st March, yet how was it no representative of nurses was given the opportunity of speaking. There were several present who, having gone up through the various stages necessary to make them acquainted with facts, could have done so. It seemed most extraordinary that only men should be permitted to eulogise a woman's genius. The Secretary of State for War, Lord Haldane, paid high tribute to the woman who had come to the rescue of the sick and wounded in time of war when the arrangements of the State broke down. It is the more strange therefore that nurses were not invited to voice the wishes of nurses concerning the Memorial to the Founder of Modern Nursing.

Yours very truly,

CLARA LEE,

Formerly Hospital Matron.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Seeing that men are trained to public speaking almost from their childhood, it strikes me as rather a remarkable thing, that they either disregard, or do not understand, the laws which govern those important branches of that Art, called discussion and debate. Mr. G. J. Holyoake—that master of the art of public speaking—asserts that "the sureness of a truth is known only when it obtains acceptance after every competent person has been heard, who has anything to say against it," so I think Miss Mollett has good ground for her lament, relative to the recent Mansion House meeting convened to discuss the scheme or schemes for a suitable memorial to Florence Nightingale. I do not know who the other members

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