

gloves should be worn when attending to the evacuations.

Miss A. Phipps mentions that in preventing the spread of the disease plenty of fresh air (at least 2,000—3,000 cubic feet per patient) and sunshine, should be admitted to the ward or room.

Miss M. V. Winters refers to the important part played by "typhoid carriers" in the dissemination of disease.

#### QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

"What are the causes of Transverse Presentations? Name the modes of natural delivery."

### THE QUEEN AND INDIAN WOMEN.

On Saturday, December the 9th, the Queen held a Reception of Indian Ladies at Delhi, who presented an Address of Welcome. In acknowledging the Address, the Queen-Emress replied in affectionate terms and said:—

"The beautiful spirit of your welcome affects me deeply, and I trust that those who meet me here to-day will themselves accept and convey to the sisterhood of this great Empire my warm thanks for their gentle greeting of sincere homage. I desire to assure you all of my ever-increasing solicitude for the happiness and welfare of those who live 'within the walls.' The pages of history have set forth what splendid influences for good can be brought to bear in their homes by the women of India, and the annals of its noble races are coloured by acts of devoted fealty and magnificent service as the fruits of the lessons instilled by mothers in the hearts and minds of their children. I have learnt with deep satisfaction of the evolution which is gradually but surely taking place among the inmates of the purdah, and I am convinced that you all desire to encourage education amongst your children, so that they may grow up fitted to become useful and cultivated companions for their future husbands. The jewel you have given me will ever be very precious in my eyes, and whenever I wear it, though thousands of miles of land and sea separate us, my thoughts will fly to the homes of India and bring back again and again this happy meeting and recall the love your tender hearts have yielded to me. Your jewel shall pass to the future generations as an Imperial heirloom, and shall always stand as the token of the first meeting of the English Queen with the ladies of India. I thank you for your congratulations and for the good wishes expressed by you towards the King-Emperor and myself, and join my prayers to yours for the strength, unity, and well-being of the Empire."

### AN APPROVED FRIENDLY SOCIETY FOR NURSES.

Your Editor has kindly allowed me to state my views on the subject of an Approved Society for Nurses under the National Insurance Bill, which has now galloped through Parliament. I am very pleased to avail myself of her offer, as I am strongly in favour of nurses founding an Approved Society to meet the requirements of the Act for the following, very simple, reasons:—Firstly: Many well-known friendly societies will not insure women, or only insure them on disadvantageous terms; women will therefore be restricted in their choice of a friendly society with which to insure, or will have to become voluntary or post-office contributors, who have been described with much truth as the step-children of the Bill. This will press very unjustly on nurses, who are a particularly healthy body, picked lives, so to say, as medical fitness is one of the conditions of training. Secondly—and this perhaps is the most important point—in a nurses' approved society, the nurses, as a body, would have the control of the money which they, as a body, subscribed. How important this point is you can judge at once if you read Part II of the fourth schedule in the Bill relating to additional benefits. Here are recounted the additional benefits which a society may extend to its members from its surplus funds, after having satisfied its statutory obligations. You will find that they include payment for medical attendance for persons dependent upon a member, an increase of sickness benefit or disablement benefit for members with children, increased payment of sickness benefit, increase of maternity benefit, allowance to members during convalescence, building or leasing of houses suitable for convalescent homes, addition to Old Age Pensions or payment of same at earlier date, payment to members in want or distress, payment for personal use of members who, because they are in hospital or allied institutions, are not in receipt of sickness allowance. Now for many of those benefits nurses have no use at all, or very little, but if the nurse joins an ordinary approved friendly society her contributions are pooled for the benefit of *all* the members, many of whom require maternity benefit, allowance for children and for dependents, which benefits will certainly loom largest in the vision of the ordinary friendly society member, and will be most largely voted for. But if the nurses have a friendly society of their own they will be able to use any surplus

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)