

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.

WHERE ARE THEY ?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Where are all the good nurses, for year by year numbers are being trained in well-managed hospitals? They do not come my way. I should be grateful for the experience of those of my colleagues who are trying to have patients in Isolation Hospitals properly nursed. It really is heart-breaking sometimes. Few women who apply have finished their three years' course, and only yesterday in interviewing a nurse for a vacant post here, in reply to my question of why she had no general training, she replied "It is not worth my while—I get all the private work I want"! This nurse, who has only had short term experience in Isolation Hospitals, has been earning £3 3s. a week. I belonged to a London Co-op. in the past, and though I have a three years' certificate from a good hospital, could only command £2 2s. for my services to the public. But where are all the good nurses? Surely they do not evaporate into thin air as soon as they are certificated?

Yours truly,
MATRON, ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

THE INTERNATIONAL BADGE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Shall I be eligible to wear the badge at Cologne? We have no Nurses' League at this hospital, and I hope to attend the Nursing Congress.

Yours sincerely,
A SISTER.

[There will be several emblems to be worn at Cologne. The official delegates (four from each country affiliated to the International Council) and the foundation members will have a distinctive Badge. All members of societies which form National Councils or Associations will have a ribbon with the name of the country represented. Only nurses can wear these, as they alone are members. There is also to be a Congress rosette provided of the German colours, which everyone who takes a ticket for the Congress will have supplied. No matron or nurse in this country need be excluded from membership of our National Council, and therefore of the International Council, as she can become a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, and the Irish Nurses' Association, all of which help to form the National Council, even if there is no

League attached to her hospital. *Co-operation* is the keynote of the Council, and unless societies join the centre and help to support it financially and socially they lack appreciation of the fundamental basis of self-help upon which it is founded.—ED.]

"NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE."

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In the letter column of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING of May 4th, I read a letter from a correspondent saying that the author of "Nearer My God to Thee," Mrs. Sarah Flower Adams, was the wife of a Unitarian minister and an American. I have since read in *The Dawn of Day*, which I send to you, by C. J. Hamilton, an article on Sarah Flower Adams, in which he or she says she was born on February 22nd, 1805, at the village of Harlow in Essex, and that she was married at the Parish Church of Hackney on September 24th, 1834, to Mr. William Brydges Adams, who was distinguished as an engineer and also as an inventor.

She is stated to have written fourteen hymns, including "Nearer My God to Thee," and which were published in 1841, forming part of a collection of "Hymns and Anthems" made by Mr. W. J. Fox. She died of consumption on August 14th, 1848, and was laid to rest at Harlow.

Your correspondent may be perfectly right. I am only quoting from the article I have just read.

I am, yours truly,
A READER OF THE B.J.N.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We regret that we cannot find space this week for the correspondence between Dr. Robertson, the Hon. Sec. of the Scottish Nurses' Association, and the Scottish Insurance Commissioners. We shall insert it in full in our next issue.

Probationer T.—We cannot advise on the point you write. It is your duty to consult the matron.

C.D.M., District Nurse.—Silecroft, a few miles north of Millom on the Cumberland coast, is just the quiet and beautiful place you require. Inland there are plenty of hills and crags to climb. Write to the postmaster enclosing a stamp for reply about lodgings.

Miss C. T., Liverpool.—Only nurses from a few London hospitals are taken at the Ramsgate Home. The Home of Rest for Nurses formerly at 12, Sussex Square, Brighton, is now closed.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS FOR JUNE

June 22nd.—What symptoms would lead you to suspect puerperal thrombosis of the lower extremities?

June 29th.—Describe the methods of applying (a) dry cupping, (b) wet cupping.

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