

I AM informed that it is the intention of the Matron of the Saffron Walden Hospital to have a Christmas tree at the above Institution during the early part of December, and she earnestly solicits the help of all interested in the Hospital. Members, as before, will (on the payment of a shilling) be entitled to a "draw" from the tree. Arrangements will also be made for stalls for the sale of fancy work and articles at various prices, and bran tubs. This being the last occasion on which the Matron will undertake the management of the Christmas tree (having placed her resignation before the House Committee), she is most anxious that her efforts should prove successful. Any contributions in the form of work or fancy articles, either for the patients or public tree, will be most gratefully acknowledged by the Matron, who begs that they may be sent in by the third week in November.

Give just what you please, we'll no offering refuse,  
Be it something to look at, or something to use;  
Smart little dresses for children to wear,  
Gloves for the hands, or pomade for the hair;  
Fanciful ornaments, vases and jars,  
Jewels as precious as those of the Shah's,  
Housewives for needles, or cushions for pins;  
Teacups and saucers, plates, dishes and tins,  
Window blinds, antimacassars, wool mats,  
Needle-work slippers, boots, bonnets, and hats;  
Dolls with wax faces and beautiful curls,  
Suitable presents for good little girls;  
Penknives or claspknives, tops, balls, traps and bats,  
Neckties or collars, silk, cloth, or felt hats;  
Trumpets or whistles, full boxes of toys,  
Or anything else that is useful to boys;  
Coral and bells ringing nursery chimes,  
Watches and clocks to keep pace with the times;  
Gentlemen's walking sticks, fancy or plain,  
Ladies' portmonnaies, with strong clasp and chain,  
Scap for the toilet, and bottles of scent,  
Inkstands, pen-wipers, *all* these may be sent,  
With a great many others not mentioned above,  
Proofs of industry, or tokens of love,  
With thanks to the donors we'll gladly receive.  
Whatever our friends may think proper to give;  
All kinds of articles likely to sell,  
From a lady's gold watch to a child's tinkling bell!

THE name of Marshall is so intimately connected with cookery, that I have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of "Handbook of Gas Cookery," with practical recipes, specially adapted for household gas cooking stoves. Price one shilling. Published by Messrs. Whittaker and Co., Paternoster Square, E.C. In this particularly practical little book of sixty pages Mrs. Charles Marshall (who should know what cooking is if anyone does) has given a vast amount of useful information. Many of the smaller Cottage Hospitals and other Institutions do their cooking by gas: to the officials of such places this Handbook is simply invaluable, as it equally is to private persons who use gas cooking stoves.

The recipes are varied, and, taken collectively, are distinguished by their admirable selection and arrangement. I have no better wish than that this book be placed in the hands of everyone with the slightest liking or knowledge of cookery. They will not be disappointed. Every Nurse should possess a copy.

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*Apropos* of the query answered by the Editor in our correspondence columns recently, in reference to Nursing Institutions in Ireland, I have much pleasure in giving the following extracts from a letter received from Dr. L. H. Ormsby, of Dublin, who is greatly interested in the Dublin Red Cross Nursing Sisters' Home. Dr. Ormsby says:—"I have been looking through your publication, and am greatly pleased with it, and send you on our last report of the Dublin Red Cross Sisters House. I take a very deep interest in Nursing and lady Nurses, and I was the *first* person here to place scientific sick Nursing on its proper basis in Dublin by the establishment of the Dublin Red Cross Order of Nursing Sisters in 1884. All Sisters of this order require to be *gentlewomen* by *birth* and *education*, and we have at present going through their course of Nursing several young English ladies, and I would be glad if you would kindly mention the fact, as young ladies having a taste for the work might like to know of an Institution specially reserved for ladies of their own social position.

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"OUR Nursing diploma, at the end of their year's training, is only obtained after passing a most stringent and searching examination in anatomy, physiology, surgery, medicine, infantile diseases, and all the practical details of Hospital sick Nursing. We are determined that our training will not be a *sham*. Many Institutions, I am sorry to say, *dub* their workers *Nurses* without any examination or other test of efficiency, thinking that the wearing of a *Nurse's* uniform constitutes a Nurse. Again, some Institutions train their Probationers in workhouses, where there is no possibility of their getting a scientific groundwork, so essential in the training of the highly-educated modern sick Nurse. I saw your note in the *Nursing Record* about another Institution imitating our uniform, which is perfectly true."

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THE following are the rules of the Society. I only regret to see that three years' training instead of one year is not insisted upon.

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THE Home and Training School (the only one of

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