

## 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.*

## NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

Treasurer—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.  
YORK HOUSE,  
ST. JAMES'S PALACE,  
S.W.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Many thanks for your generous acquiescence to the suggestion made to you with regard to the Advertisement.

Yours faithfully,  
C. ARTHUR PEARSON,  
Joint Secretary.

## WHY NOT SKILL AND WISDOM?

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—The "Form of Intercession with Almighty God on behalf of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces now Engaged in War" will be used by hundreds of thousands of people throughout the kingdom during the coming months, and if it is to be of real help to them, must voice their needs and aspirations.

May I point out how inadequate the petition for our trained nurses appears, not only to me but to others, who have spoken to me on the subject. Unless some alteration is made in it, it can only be used perfunctorily, whereas every nurse in the kingdom would welcome an opportunity for prayer in our public worship for those of their number who, at home and abroad, are caring for the sick and wounded.

Trained nurses are not lacking in either sympathy or patience, and I do not know that they are more in need of these virtues than any other class of the community.

What nurses themselves would probably say if asked what they need, however highly trained, and whatever length of experience they may have had, are skill to carry out, with the greatest amount of benefit to the sick and wounded, the treatment ordered by the medical staff, and wisdom to deal wisely with the many difficult problems connected with their patients with which they must be confronted. It is recognised that the doctors need skill and wisdom, why not the nurses also? Why should not both be included in the one petition? If the doctors need skill and wisdom, so do the nurses. If the nurses need sympathy and patience, so do the doctors. But the latter virtues may, I think, be taken for granted.

I am, Dear Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
T. F. N. S.

[The whole Form of Intercession appears to us very cold and lacking in spiritual force. We would

pray that our nurses should bestow skill, tenderness, and consolation on the sick and dying soldier. The writer of the Prayers evidently presupposes that this great band of devoted women are devoid of the very virtues for which as a class they are renowned.—Ed.]

## A HELPFUL SUGGESTION FROM THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—May I suggest to the Matrons of Hospitals and Nursing Homes through the medium of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, that the Nurses' Missionary League might be able to fill up gaps in their ranks, made by Sisters and Nurses who have gone to the Front.

There are Missionary Nurses who cannot return to their stations, and recruits who are temporarily kept back, who would be most willing to help their country in this way at this crisis.

It is hardly necessary to remind your readers that the condition of membership in the N.M.L. is full general training.

Very truly yours,  
H. Y. RICHARDSON,  
Secretary.

Sloane Gardens House,  
52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

[We advise Matrons to whom this offer commends itself to communicate with Miss Richardson at the above address.—Ed.]

HOSPITAL ST. PIERRE,  
BRUSSELS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR EDITOR,—We are all well, nursing the Germans mostly.

B. CUTLER.

3rd September, 1914.

## REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Miss S. L. Cox.—Hope to use the article shortly.

C. V. T. (Hampstead).—Lessons in hospital cookery for Red Cross and Ambulance purposes are being held at the Northern Polytechnic Institute, Holloway Road, and elsewhere.

Sister S.—We fear it is useless for you to apply unless you speak French.

Matron.—We sympathise with you, but unless you intend to resign, think you had better make the best of the circumstances.

Miss A. T.—Apply for training; probationers are needed in many hospitals and infirmaries.

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

September 19th.—Why is milk an ideal food? Mention some ways in which it may be made more digestible.

September 26th.—What do you know of anti-typhoid vaccination and its preventive influence?

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