

## 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.*

## L'EXECUZIONE DI MISS CAVELL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—As a Red Cross Nurse, and as a Christian woman, I have been waiting to see an explosion of feeling for the abominable way the Huns have treated our fellow-worker, poor Miss Cavell.

Very much occupied and far away, if anything has been done in England it has escaped my notice. If it has, I shall be very glad, as I consider such an act contaminates all humanity, and those capable of it deserve extermination.

I suggest we women should influence our men under arms in this sense, for if two thousand years of contact with civilisation and Christianity have only served to develop (cleverly masked) all that is most devilish in the human character, the sooner they are done away with, as noxious animals, the better it will be for the world.

Yours sincerely,

CONSTANCE GARIBALDI.

Riogreddo Prov. di Roma,  
October 20th, 1915.

[Signora Garibaldi will have by now read in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING (to which she is a subscriber) how poignantly the British nation resents this murder. We learn that it has had a miraculous effect upon recruiting in this Empire, so that sooner or later expiation will have to be made.—ED.]

## THE MURDER OF MISS CAVELL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I can quite appreciate the standpoint of Miss Morton, but this particular case seems to me to place every German and German officer outside the pale of humanity. The German officer was ever—to put it in his own disagreeable and bronchitic-sounding language—a *Schweinhund*, but in this war he has proved himself to be vermin of the most cruel and dangerous class. He is impervious to kindness and devoid of those humaner qualities which distinguish man from beast. Nothing could exceed the low brutality of Miss Cavell's murder. She was singled out to suffer merely because she was English, and her fate was characterised by calculated cruelty. The deliberate way in which the American Ambassador was cajoled and tricked by her torturers is unsurpassed in the annals of civilised devilry.

That is why I say and shall continue to say, that no Englishwoman should consent to nurse

a wounded German officer, any more than she should take a bruised viper to her bosom.

Yours faithfully,

59, Queen Anne St., MACLEOD YEARSLEY,  
Cavendish Square, W.

## AN INDEFENSIBLE SYSTEM.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I enclose 10s. for the Registration Fund, as we shall badly need Registration after the war, with all these various untrained ladies let loose among the sick. It really makes me ill to see the people parading about in nurse's uniform. I was asked to help at some workrooms lately opened—everyone in a nurse's apron with red cross on it, and Army Sisters' caps, even in the rooms where they were making felt slippers and mending old clothes! Why? Again, why wear nurse's uniform when only doing secretarial work? The excuse is that "I must wear washing things in a hospital." I am constantly being asked to advise my nurse friends to go out to France to work under untrained Superintendents, but I never advise any trained nurse to work under a lay Commandant: it always ends badly.

Yours truly,

LONG EXPERIENCE.

[We are entirely in sympathy with this sensible nurse's views. Trained nurses in the beginning of the war should have protested against the depreciation of their professional position by the present constitution of the Red Cross organisation in so far as trained nursing is concerned. It places the trained and skilled nurse under the authority and direction of the untrained and ignorant woman, and her professional reputation at the mercy of people who are not qualified to judge on the matter. The outrageous treatment of Miss Tubbs by the Executive Committee and Hon. Officers at the Endsleigh Palace Hospital for Officers is the direct result of this vicious system.—ED.]

## OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

November 13th.—What are the symptoms of mental failure, and what is the nursing treatment?

November 20th.—How may nurses and midwives help to diminish the mortality amongst infants, and children under five years of age?

November 27th.—What devices can a nurse employ in caring for a patient suffering from sleeplessness?

## FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Candidates for the French Flag Nursing Corps Service in France can be interviewed by arrangement with the Hon. Secretary, 60, Nevern Square, Earl's Court, S.W. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will be at 431, Oxford Street, W., on Friday, November 5th, and Monday, November 8th, from 2.30 to 5 p.m., to see candidates, who must be well educated and hold a certificate for three years' general training. Experience in fever nursing is an additional advantage.

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