

thing that required to be reformed: that was the Nursing. He never relinquished the idea of reforming it, and he thought he might say without egotism that he had every reason to be proud of the position which Nursing held in Dublin at the present day. Well, the profession was improved step by step until they founded the Dublin Ladies' order of the Sisterhood, with the distinguished aid of the four sisters Lyons.

DR. GLOVER, at a meeting of Medical practitioners, called by the British Medical Temperance Association, very energetically and emphatically condemned the use of beer, &c., by Nursing women, and holds the strong opinion that the best Nurses he had seen were those who were total abstainers.

THE report of the Homes for Inebriates Association, together with the seventh annual report of Dalrymple Home at Rickmansworth, has reached me, and it is full of good and encouraging reading. More patients have been treated, and a successful financial condition has been attained.

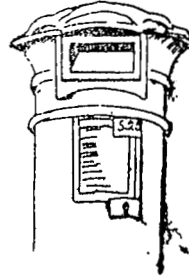
ON Tuesday afternoon last an interesting sale of work was held at Devonshire House, Piccadilly, by kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, in aid of the Irish Distressed Ladies' Fund inaugurated by Mrs. Power Lalor some fifteen years since. The sale was to have been opened by H.R.H. Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, but, owing to her unavoidable absence, Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough performed the ceremony. Whilst pleased in noticing the lovely things, both useful and ornamental, displayed to view around those magnificent rooms opened for this purpose, and gratified at those stalls held by the Lady Seaton and Lady McClintock, feeling that a double kindness was being shown by giving the rich an opportunity of purchasing here plain, good, useful garments to distribute amongst those unable to purchase for themselves, I trust that so deserving an Institution as this will be greatly benefited by this sale.

I HAVE much pleasure in informing my readers that particulars of a competition, having for its prize a five-guinea "Vertical Feed" sewing-machine, will be given next week. S. G.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Registered Nurse, A Radical Matron.—We will insert your excellent letters next week. We have received so many on the same subject. *An action for libel is the only remedy.*

First Page.—Of course you are implicated. We quite agree with your friend. Should advise you to consult a solicitor.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(Notes, Querries, &c.)

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.

We shall be happy to answer, as far as we can, all questions submitted to us.

Communications, &c., not noticed in our present number will receive attention when space permits.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—We, the undersigned, regret to find it necessary to call the attention of the public to the following facts:—

At the present moment any woman—even if she is destitute of knowledge or of character, or of both—can term herself a Trained Nurse, and can obtain employment in that capacity. There is, moreover, no means of preventing any Certificated Nurse, who has proved herself unworthy of trust, from continuing her occupation. It is unnecessary to point out the danger to the sick involved in this state of affairs. Three years ago the Royal British Nurses' Association was founded "in order to unite Nurses for their mutual help and protection, and for the advancement in every way of their professional work." It has been already joined by many influential Medical Men, by the Matrons of a hundred and fifty important English and Colonial Hospitals, and by nearly three thousand Nurses. Its primary object has been to compile and issue a Register of Trained Nurses, the first annual volume of which has just been published, and can be obtained through any bookseller, from the offices of the Association. It contains the names of one thousand seven hundred Nurses, their addresses, and the place and length of the Hospital training which each has received. These women have voluntarily applied for enrolment, and their certificates of technical knowledge and personal character have been carefully scrutinised by the influential Board appointed by the Association for the purpose. If any one of these Nurses hereafter proves to be unworthy of confidence, her name can at once be removed from the Register. The Association only deals with Nurses who have completed their training. It does not, therefore, in any way interfere with the Nurse Training Schools.

We greatly regret that some Hospital authorities and a few private individuals, misapprehending the objects of the Association, have exhibited their opposition to the system of Registration by most unusual methods. Many Nurses have been prevented from joining, or compelled to resign their Membership of, the Association. Its Members have been persistently assailed in print. A simple proposal to incorporate the Association under the Companies' Acts, in order that it may take over and administer Trust Funds, has now been seized upon to send broadcast over the country documents marked "private and confidential," requesting the Committees of Provincial Hospitals to oppose the Association. Failing any other opportunity of meeting such attacks, we are compelled to call public attention to the matter, and to express our very decided conviction—

(1) That the sick should be protected from ignorant and untrustworthy Nurses.

(2) That Nurses have a perfect right to demand that their calling should be cleared, as far as possible, from those who now discredit it and them.

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