

as yet only playing at being poor; cherishing a foolish, though unacknowledged notion of protecting my husband's poverty with the ægis of my position as the daughter of a man of consequence in his county. I was thus wronging the dignity of my husband's position, and complimenting wealth by making so much of its absence. Poverty or wealth ought to have been in my eyes such a trifle that I never thought of publishing whether I was rich or poor. I ought to have taken my position without wasting a thought on what it might appear in the eyes of those about me, meeting them on the mere level of humanity, and leaving them to settle with themselves how they were to think of me, and where they were to place me. I suspect also, now that I think of it, that I looked down upon my cousin Judy because she had a mere man of business for her husband; forgetting that our Lord had found a collector of conquered taxes, a man, I presume, with little enough of the artistic about him, one of the fittest in his nation, to bear the message of his redemption to the hearts of his countrymen. It is his loves and his hopes, not his visions and intentions, by which a man is to be judged. My father had taught me all this, but I did not understand it then, nor until years after I had left him.

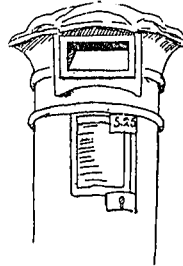
"Is Mrs. Percivale a lady of fortune?" asked Mr. Baddeley of my cousin Judy when we were gone, for we were the first to leave.

"Certainly not. Why do you ask?" she returned.

"Because, from her talk, I thought she must be," he answered.

Cousin Judy told me this the next day, and I could see she thought I had been bragging of my family. So I recounted all the conversation I had had with him, as nearly as I could recollect, and set down the question to an impertinent irony. But I have since changed my mind: I now judge that he could not believe any poor person would joke about poverty. I never found one of those people who go about begging for charities believe me when I told him the simple truth that I could not afford to subscribe. None but a rich person, they seem to think, would dare such an excuse, and that only in the just expectation that its very assertion must render it incredible. (To be continued.)

In future the *Nursing Record* will be issued at a penny, instead of twopence as heretofore, and several additional features of interest have been added. The journal is invaluable to every one interested in the work of Nursing.—*Printing Times*.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(Notes, Queries, &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.

BADGE OR NO BADGE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—As a subscriber, constant reader, and Member of the B.N.A., I should like to congratulate the prize winners of the Badge Competition. The sketch with the rose, thistle and shamrock, with the B.N.A., seemed most suitable. May I suggest that, although our motto is faithful, or "*Steadfast and True*," there are many seeing us wear or possessing such a badge who would not know we belonged to the British Nurses' Association?—Yours truly,
N. W.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I beg to enclose two pen and ink sketches as ideas for a badge, one to represent a medal and clasp, to be worn on the left breast; the bar to be made as a brooch, or worn with a ribbon, as soldiers wear it; if with ribbon, I should suggest crimson, same shade as enamel, which is to be the grounding for the bust and of the cross and M.B.N.A. on the reverse side. Loop on bar to be so made that either side of medal can be worn.

I must apologise for cutting out the likeness from our annual report; not being an artist, I could not attempt to sketch a portrait of our Royal President. I think many Nurses, if not all, would agree with me that it would be loyal on our part to wear as a badge a medal on which we have a representation of H.R.H. Princess Christian, for she has so nobly come forward to support our cause, and as Nurses we owe her a deep and lasting gratitude.

I enclose another sketch, with a white cross on a red background, motto, "*Steadfast and True*," over the upper arm of the cross, the year of foundation below the lower arm, and B.N.A. on the cross arms; the badge to be sewn on a band of royal blue ribbon, and worn on the left arm.—Yours faithfully,
ESPERANCE,
A Member of the B.N.A.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space in your *Record* to bring before the Members of the British Nurses' Association a badge which I have adopted, and come to a decision? The pattern I have sent. I wish this device to be in dark red silk, and the monogram, M.B.N.A., to be worked inside it in dark blue silk; to be worn on the body. I should be most pleased to subscribe anything or any little towards the incurring of expenses of this badge suggestion.—Yours, &c.,
NURSE B.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I beg to enclose my sketch of badge—the rose, thistle, and shamrock, to denote the *British* character of B.N.A. The red is to show perforation. I would suggest its being made of silver, over red or scarlet, and to be worn on the arm; it might

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)