

tion and suggest that the discovery of this fact, a short time since, was as new to himself as it was to us. When the British Nurses' Association took the initiative of forming a Register of Trained Nurses a quarter of a century ago, a Memorial of the Nurse Training Schools was drawn up in opposition, from which the following is an extract:—"We wish to point out that those who represent the largest nursing interests in the metropolis and throughout the country, and who have most to do with the training and examination of nurses, have not only declined to take part in the Association, but consider that its proposed enrolment of Nurses in a common Register, if carried out, would (1) lower the position of the best trained Nurses; (2) be detrimental to the advancement of the teaching of Nurses; (3) be disadvantageous to the public; and (4) be injurious to the medical practitioner." In the list of appended signatures appears that of Sir E. Cooper Perry.

I am, &c.,

ISABEL MACDONALD.

The sting is in the tail.
Comment is superfluous.

Self determination, self expression self government for the Nursing Profession, are as "detrimental" and "disadvantageous" and "injurious" in the opinion of Sir Cooper Perry and other hospital managers to-day as they were a quarter of a century ago. That is why we are out with all the force that is in us against his College of Nursing Bill.

A FALSE STATEMENT DISPROVED.

With a lack of veracity for which the publications he controls are notorious, Sir Henry Burdett makes the statement in the *Hospital*, last week, that his report of the College Meeting, held on January 23rd, is a "Verbatim Report," and he viciously attacks the independent trained Nurses' Organizations, and accuses our expert reporter (Miss M. Breay) of presenting to this journal a report made up of "omissions and misrepresentations." Both statements are absolutely false—and inserted to damage the prestige of this Journal and the veracity of our reporter in the opinion of Members of Parliament, to whom it is addressed. It is a cowardly and unscrupulous attack on the section of the profession whose organ THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is, and who have the courage to oppose the proposed tyrannical control of the nursing profession by persons who subsidise the organs under the direction of Sir Henry Burdett.

Fortunately, our report is based upon the *written notes* of several speakers, and its accuracy can be supported by many persons present; whereas the so-called "Verbatim Report" of the speeches in the *Hospital* is not only inaccurate in many instances, but nonsense. *We wonder if the reporter recognizes it.*

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—My attention has been directed to a statement in last week's *Hospital* that its

report of the College Meeting, held on January 23rd, is "verbatim," and the report in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING makes "omissions and misrepresentations." I spoke from notes which I handed to your professional and very expert representative and desire to state emphatically that your report is absolutely correct, and that which appeared in *The Hospital* is not only inaccurate but nonsense, for the publication of which there is apparently no redress.

I am, dear Madam, yours truly,

M. F. RIMMER.

(Hon. Organising Secretary, National Union of Trained Nurses.)

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—I observe that Sir Henry Burdett states that your report of the College Meeting is inaccurate, and does so—as is his wont in no measured terms. We have long ago decided that it is worth no one's while to correct his own constantly recurring and very obvious inaccuracies, but he invites nurses to read the reports in your paper and his own, and I cordially second his proposal, as they will have little difficulty in arriving at a conclusion as to which is correct. His report of my own remarks is not only inaccurate, but truly ridiculous. I certainly never sat at the feet of Sir Arthur Stanley in order to learn which principles one ought to support in any Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

Some nurses regard Sir Henry's literary efforts as the best barometer of the nursing situation, and have written to enquire in what particular the *B.J.N.* had lately scored in order to produce such results from his "honeyed pen."

I am, &c.,

ISABEL MACDONALD.

COLLEGE OF NURSING ISSUES WRIT.

We learn that the lady on whom Sir Charles Russell & Co. have served a writ for their clients, the College of Nursing, Ltd., is by no means perturbed. As the case is now *sub judice*, we are prevented from any expression of opinion, but we shall watch the proceedings very closely in the interests of the profession at large.

The Nurse is not a member of the College, but we advise the 12,000 nurses who have subscribed to its constitution, that in their case, should they offend the College Council, they can be summarily dealt with, *without any power of appeal whatever.* We ask these nurses how they like the prospect?

THE PASSING BELL.

We much regret to record the death of Miss Rider, a nurse at the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital, Heswall. The nurse returned from a holiday feeling unwell, and died shortly afterwards of influenza.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)