

The amount realised was £1,111, and the expenses were under £10. We congratulate Miss Melrose.

Mrs. M'Cowan, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who presided over the Sale, referred to the Home in Edinburgh, the accommodation of which was taxed to the utmost capacity, and the necessity had arisen for a similar home in the West of Scotland. There was at present a waiting list of ten deserving cases.

Lady Blythswood, who declared the sale open, expressed her pleasure at seeing so many of the younger members of the nursing profession helping that afternoon, thus showing their thoughtfulness for the older members. She characterised the nursing profession as the highest in the world and spoke of the relief felt when a nurse arrived in a house in a case of dangerous illness, and the despair, when, as it sometimes happened, no nurse was available.

Miss Gregory Smith, R.R.C., said that a similar sale would be held in the Western Infirmary in February. A sub-committee was appointed to issue an appeal, the sum aimed at being £20,000. Donations will be received by Sir John S. Samuel, City Chambers, Glasgow.

#### "THE LITTLE GREY DOVE IN THE BOX"

There came to the High Courts one day  
A demure little lady in grey.  
She wore collar and cuffs,  
No ribbons or fluffs,  
And the Law lost its heart straightway.

She stood by the side of "the Chief,"  
Who gave a deep sigh of relief.  
At last here's a case  
Neither sordid nor base,  
And each barrister rustled his brief.

At sight of this innocent maid,  
The Defendants became quite afraid;  
They quickly withdrew  
All they'd said that they knew,  
And a tardy apology made.

The Court most indignant had grown  
At the meanness Defendants had shown;  
Said Counsel in fury,  
Addressing the jury,  
" 'Tis the cruellest case I have known."

Without any further delay  
They were ordered five hundred to pay,  
With the whole of the costs  
Of the case they had lost  
'Gainst the innocent Lady in Grey.

The barristers crowded in flocks,  
The Court was a mass of curled locks;  
They all wanted to see  
The wonderful "She"—  
The "Little Grey Dove in the Box."  
—By "A LIMB OF THE LAW."

#### COMING EVENTS.

December 17th.—Lecture "Diet and Disease,"  
by Dr. McGregor Robertson, Scottish Nurses'  
Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow. At 7.30 p.m.

December 25th.—Christmas Day.

#### 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.*

#### CROSS REGISTRATION AND A UNIFORM STANDARD.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—It is good to find nurses indignant over certain proposals in regard to Registration, in so far as it shows that they are at least awake and watchful of their own interests. But I suggest that the B.J.N. and some of its correspondents are in danger of allowing their indignation to run away with them. It is absurd to suggest that Irish or Scottish nurses will be able to practise in England as Registered Nurses on payment of 2s. 6d. The truth is that an Irish or Scottish nurse who wishes to practise in England will have to pay at least 23s. 6d.—more probably 28s. 6d.—because she will have to pay the ordinary registration fee of a guinea in her own country and a cross-registration fee as well. The same fee would, of course, be charged to an English nurse who wished to practise in Scotland or Ireland. What is there unreasonable in this? It is a fact that many Irish nurses get their training in England (as I did myself) and then practise in both countries. It is a fact also that English nurses practise in both Ireland and England. Doubtless the same is true of Scotland and England. The fact that there are three Registration Councils does not alter the fact that the three countries are closely united, and that a reciprocal registration arrangement is not only desirable but even necessary. And since it is necessary, obviously it ought not to be unduly expensive. The suggestion of one of your recent correspondents that any proposal has been made that the cost of the Council's work in compiling the Register could be met by a payment of 2s. 6d. a head is, of course, absurd, and simply misleading. If the standard of training is, as it is intended to be, uniform, this work has already been done by the nurse's own Council, and paid for by the same fee in all three countries. The cross-registration fee should be merely for the transference of the name.

It was most unfair to Irish Midwives who had held their C.M.B. for years to make them pay another guinea when the Midwives (Ireland) Act came into operation. English nurses would find it equally unfair if they had to pay an extra guinea if they happened to come to Ireland.

The real reason for this sudden attack of Sinn Fein exclusiveness among English nurses seems to be that they have confused the cross-registration fee issue with the standard of registration. It was certainly the intention of Parliament, and is also, I believe, the desire of all nurses, that the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)