

replies, quietly, "The Special Nurse was removed at twelve; but the patient has not suffered."

"Who removed the Nurse?" the young man asks, his face flushing angrily.

"The Home Sister gave the order."

"The Home Sister! What in the name of—What has the Housekeeper to do with Nursing in the Wards? Do you mean to tell me that a woman who has no duty to perform in the Wards, and does not know one case from another, has the authority to remove a Special Nurse from a critical case?"

"I have already reported the matter to the Matron's representative, as the Matron is away," the Sister answers with dignity.

"Thank you, Sister, but I take it as I am responsible for this patient's life, it is my bounden duty to know whether the Housekeeper is authorised to order him to be neglected. I will come back soon and finish," and he turns on his heel and hastily leaves the Ward.

Nurse Damian's face is a picture—her eyes gleam. "That's how I feel, only of course I must bottle it in; but there is some hope now," she whispers. "He's a new House Physician—and independent of office—and is wise to take the bull by the horns. The last thing we had was a Prize Scholar and a Gold Medallist, and thirst-

ing for promotion on the Staff; and his policy was 'peace at any price.' If I were a Russian I should be a Nihilist." And with this vague observation she goes about her business.

Half-an-hour later Dr. Fulton returns, and continues his visit to the patients. A calm has succeeded the storm, and we hear nothing further of the Home Sister's delinquencies; only I feel a strong conviction that poor No. 26's Special Nurse will not be sent out again at a moment's notice to nurse rich people outside the Hospital, and leave poor No. 26 to his fate. Don't you think it is a cruel shame that such things should be done? I suppose, dear Jean, that if I was a pattern Pro. you would hear nothing of these little human incidents. Everything should appear to me *couleur de rose*—but it doesn't; and now, good-night, dear old thing.—Yours,

PHYLLIS.

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