

than his two opponents polled together—just as I expected. Mark my words, Phyllis mine, Home Rule is as dead as Parnellism—which is as defunct as Julius Cæsar. Cork, like Kilkenny, has been won—not by the Nationalists—but by the Priests; and the everlasting Irish struggle has entered on another phase. It will be Romanists against Protestants now once more; all the old religious animosities will be raked up, and the result in another twenty years will be the practical extinction of the old race and the old faith. The priests have clearly called a halt. The policy of plunder was becoming perilously popular, and coming uncomfortably close to the Church, and it was imperative to draw a line somewhere. Three things are fairly certain, now that the Clericals have shown their hand. The "Non-conformist conscience" in England, Scotland, and Wales will be aroused on the subject, the Orangemen will become more rampant than ever, and the supply of sticking-plaster will have to be large indeed to meet the necessary demand.

Since your first letter, I have taken, and regularly read, *The Nursing Record*, and was last week much interested in the able Editorial about the Carlisle Infirmary. How strange it is that the Dad has been subscribing to it for years, and that, beyond that, we have not taken the slightest interest in its efficiency. People are very negligent of very simple duties, so I have written to the Secretary for a Report, and we mean to inquire into the whole matter before subscribing again.

Mrs. Carr came over to lunch to-day, and

brought *The Nursing Record* with her. She says the Ladies' Committee are most anxious that the Hospital patients should be efficiently nursed, and are by no means in favour of the scheme of training Nurses for only one year, and then sending them out as "Trained Nurses" to private patients. I cannot imagine any Matron recommending such a system or placing so low a standard of efficiency before her Probationers.

I am going up to stay with Kate on the 29th, and we are going to the *Conversazione* of the Royal British Nurses' Association, on the 4th of December. Kate seems intensely interested in this plucky Association of Nurses, and says that Registration of Nurses is "in the region of practical politics," and that public opinion is becoming quite educated on the subject. From what I know of our sex, combination of Nurses alone will never gain an Act of Parliament without the force of public opinion. Kate was down at Brighton last week, and went with a friend she met at the Windsor to pay a visit to the Nurses' Home of Rest. She was quite charmed with all she saw and with the kind reception she received from the Matron. She says the drawing-room, furnished "in Memoriam" of Mrs. H. M. King, is beautiful, and was interested to find that the handsome dining-room and half the house had been furnished in memory of her friend—Sidney Gilchrist Thomas. I am sending you his memoirs and letters, by R. W. Burnie, to read. You know he was the inventor of de-phosphorisation of pig-iron, was certainly a genius, and it is sad to think how much the

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