

much more peacefully, and what little means are necessary for my own maintenance would be less threatened.' "

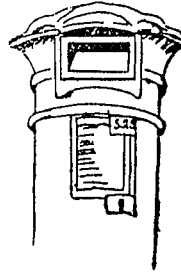
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THE Daily Programme and Social Arrangements of the Reception Committee, as far as it specially interests Nurses, is as follows:—To-day, Aug. 13: Reception at the Parkes Museum, four p.m. to seven p.m.; Subscription Dinner at the Crystal Palace, followed by an exhibition of fireworks. Tickets, ten shillings each, admission to Palace included (ladies and gentlemen); Excursion to Ealing, 1.22 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14: Visit to the Royal Naval Exhibition, on presentation tickets to foreign members; Inspection of the Hospitals under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, at two p.m.; Garden Party at Sir Spencer Wells's, four p.m. to seven p.m.; Conversazione at South Kensington Museum. Saturday, Aug. 15: Excursions to Hampton Court and Garden Party at Normansfield by Dr. Langdon Down; an Excursion to Windsor Castle. On Sunday, August 16: Sermon by the Venerable Archdeacon Farrar, D.D., F.R.S., at Westminster Abbey, at three p.m.; Excursion, by Dr. George Buchanan, on the river from Maidenhead, to leave Paddington by the 10.10 a.m. (limited to fifty). Receptions: A Reception will be held at the National Health Society, on Wednesday, Aug. 12; there will be an Exhibition of Sanitary and Nursing Appliances. The Sanitary Institute will receive members of the Congress at the Parkes Museum, 14a, Margaret Street, Oxford Street, on the afternoon of Thursday, Aug. 13. The Organising Committee invite the members of the Congress to a Conversazione on Friday evening, Aug. 14, at nine p.m., at the South Kensington Museum. Garden Parties: Mr. and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts kindly invited a limited number of members to a Garden Party at Holly Lodge, Highgate, on Tuesday, Aug. 11, four p.m. to seven p.m.; Lord and Lady Wantage, at 2, Carlton Gardens, Pall Mall, on Wednesday, Aug. 12, four to seven p.m. Sir Spencer Wells, at Golder's Hill, Hampstead, on Friday, Aug. 14, four p.m. to seven p.m. Sir Edwin Saunders, at Fairlawn, Wimbledon Common, on Wednesday, Aug. 12, four p.m. to seven p.m. Dr. Campbell, at the Royal Normal School for the Blind, at 2.45 p.m.

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THE number of Essays sent in for the Twenty-fifth Prize Essay Competition, which had for its subject "Give a History of the Work and Progress of Nursing during the Present Century," have been most gratifying, and the award will be made at an early date.

S. G.



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.

THE DUTIES AND NEEDS OF NURSES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—It is said that "Coming events cast their shadows before." The spirit of restlessness which is now so marked in the Nursing world was foretold years ago in the smothered storms which occasionally burst into something very like rebellion. There were a very few who could read the signs of the times, fewer still who took the truth home to themselves. Some honestly endeavoured to remedy the evils, but were hampered by their surroundings; some, more despotic, squashed the grumblers; while others, thick-skinned and wooden-headed, let things go their own way. Then came awkward questions from Doctors and private individuals about the training, long hours, and holidays of the Nurses. There was some talk, too, that Probationers would have to serve a longer time, and some sort of examination necessary. Three years' training would have been thought impossible, and when one thinks how little rest was given, in my humble opinion very few would have stood it. Disregarded at the time as these things were, yet I think they did much to bring about the Lords' Select Committee, and it has been amusing to those looking on to see the hurry some people have been in to put their houses in order of late. A very good thing they were so wise.

Now for years men in the House of Commons have discussed the question of a Register of Midwives, and in another year they may be asked to do something for Hospital Nurses. The Probationers get a longer training, the hours are shorter, and many other things will come by-and-by. The machinery of Parliament is slow in moving forward, we all know, but it is time for each Nurse to ask herself, "What do I require of Parliament, and what does Parliament require of me?"—
Yours faithfully, NOBODY.

"PALMAM QUI MERUIT FERAT."

WELL DONE, MIDDLESBOROUGH!

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Will you permit me to say, through the medium of your Journal, that it has often occurred to me, if Englishmen and Englishwomen would just lay aside a wee bit of that "stiffness and stand-offishness," as foreigners call it, and speak a good word for a man or a woman in their life-time, it would be better than writing an epitaph? And who cares a button about a grand epitaph, I wonder? At any rate, I don't. I'd rather leave a living monument behind. *Post-mortem* kindness is always behind-hand—too late to cheer the burdened spirit—and flowers shed upon the coffin cast no fragrance backward over the weary way.

Strolling recently by the river-side, during a visit to Stockton-on-Tees, a working-man vouchsafed the following salutation: "Good morning! Are you one of the Sisters, Miss?" "Well, yes, I suppose I am," was my rejoinder. "I thought so," resumed the old veteran, courteously, "for there was one of the Sisters came to see a girl about seven-

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