

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.

EAST END OUTCASTS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—I think that the lepers, which "Sister Henrietta" speaks and writes of, are no worse than some of our poor brothers and sisters in the East-End. I have had some terrible experiences. I can only say that they want as much caring for as others. There is much help given I know, but still it is not enough. Spiritual, as well as bodily, help is needed.—Yours, &c., M. A. C.

CHARITABLE SWEATING.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

SIR,—Knowing what a great interest you take in the welfare of the Nursing profession, I thought that you and the readers of your RECORD would like to know something of the way in which the Institution for Private Nurses in connection with one of the leading Metropolitan hospitals is managed.

The institution in question was opened in September, 1884, with a small staff of nurses, of whom I was the third; the staff has gradually increased, now numbering

about fifty-six. During the period of eight years, I have earned about £620, and have received something less than £220. Of course my uniform has been found, and a home provided when not engaged, which, in my case, has been on an average thirty-four days in each year over and above my yearly holiday. Of the comforts of the "home," I will only say that the Nurses' meals might receive more attention with advantage, particularly breakfast and supper. Although this is supposed to be our home, and is kept up entirely by the fees received by the Nurses, a few months ago, a Nurse in her seventh year was seen by one of the physicians and a surgeon, and they both agreed that some weeks' rest was absolutely necessary for her before she would be fit for work again; she was at once asked if she could not take her holiday, and, as it was not convenient for her to go to her friends in the South of France for about ten days, she was told by the "Matron" that she could not remain in the Institution waiting so long a time. I cannot say that it is a strict rule in the Institute, but in most cases when a nurse is ill and unable to work for a week or two, the half of her money is stopped for the time. For the last two or three years, as the funds of the Institution have increased, the Nurses have on several occasions spoken to the Lady Superintendent about an increase of salary, and they have always been told that it was under the Treasurer's consideration, but when the balance-sheet for the year 1890 came out, we had a balance of over £1,000, but nothing was done in regard to the hard-worked Nurses' money. A few weeks ago some of the Nurses decided to send a petition to the Treasurer, asking that the Nurses over four years' service should receive £40 yearly, to commence in January, 1893. How the petition was received the following correspondence will show:—

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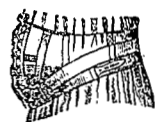
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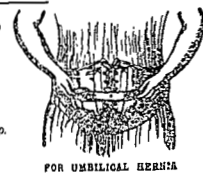
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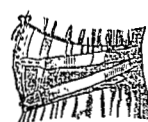
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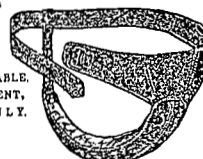


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