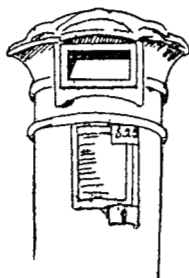


had the pleasure of noticing favourably the two previous editions in the first and seconds, and can add nothing to that which I have already said upon the book, which is now still further revised, with certain beneficial additions. I do hope that in another edition the publishers will print the title of the book on the back edge. It is very troublesome and annoying to have to pick out of a shelf full of books the one you want and think you have, but which you cannot get at without much trouble. The price of the volume is reduced to 2s 6d.

"Notes on Consumption," by Stammers Morrisson, M.D. Third edition, revised. E. Gould and Son, 59, Moorgate Street, E.C. Price not given.

"A Handbook for the Nursing of Sick Children," by Catherine Jane Wood. Cassell and Co., Limited. Price not given.

"A Manual of Nursing," by Charles J. Cullingworth, M.D., F.R.C.P. Lond. Third edition, revised. J. and A. Churchill, 11, New Burlington Street. Price 2s. 6d. R.



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.

Communications, &c., not noticed in our present number will receive attention when space permits

THE DISTRESSING CASE.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of two shillings and sixpence for the "Distressing Case," from Mrs. Freeman, Prince of Wales Terrace, Kensington, for which the widowed Nurse is most grateful.—I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

H. DUNN, M.B.N.A.

Beech House, London Road, Red Hill.

SUBSCRIBERS TO CHARITIES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—The art of obtaining subscriptions to charities is skilfully contrived and requires to be counter-plotted by scientific and careful inquiries. Prospectuses and advertisements should be well studied, as many of them are drawn up religiously to fleece the more gullible section of the public. It is not long since Royalty presided at the annual meeting of a charity which was adversely reported upon by the Charity Organisation Society as being unworthy of support. Truth is sometimes a libel. If those who are behind the charities dare publish a fraction of the information which they possess, several societies might be named which would be practically dead in a month. The patronage which great people, Royalty included, constantly give to harmful and dishonest societies is a delicate matter to handle, but people of position, as a rule, associate their names with institutions without properly investigating what they are, and thus do an infinite amount of harm, as decoy ducks, by attracting others. If a Royal Commission upon charities could be obtained, and people could give evidence on oath and be indemnified like those at the Parnell Commission, we should have some revelations of

a startling nature. It would be a great service to the charitable public if the Press would call attention to the existence and continued increase of a large number of charities which require to be closely examined before subscribing towards them. They may be shortly classed as the "private adventure or family party," and "the voting Institutions." These latter are mainly supported by those who seem to be quite satisfied in assisting the management to do as much injustice to poor applicants as could possibly be done for the money. These poor people spend what they can ill afford and beg for the so-called charities, in order that the managers may reap the benefit for the successful candidates at the least expense to themselves; in fact, a lottery, in which the charities have most of the prizes and the subscribing public the fewest. The private adventure, or family party, is a speculation, where, under the guise of a charity, some speculator is behind serving his own ends. Many special Hospitals may be included in this class, where, under the name of some special disease, the subscribing public are in reality finding an income for its promoter. The only way to ascertain the *bona fides* of such is to insist upon having a printed report for the past year, not older, and note that it has a publicly-audited balance-sheet, not a private one. There are some who do not recognise any liability for thus accounting for funds, and amongst them are to be found clergymen. In these days, when it is so difficult to bring well known cases to the bar of public opinion, it may be sufficient to warn the public where to look for them, to keep their eyes wide open, and to use their discretion. This at least may be said, that those who are in a position to know facts could name a great many Institutions, some of them large ones, not entitled to the public confidence, and whose successful candidates are not the only persons most benefited by the credulous public. There are several well known charities to which the public have subscribed liberally for years past, whose managers have actually been living upon the funds subscribed, and some members of our Royal Family have unwittingly supported their cause and have helped to make the income of these rogues of managers. "Ye would be dupes and victims, and ye are." I am reminded of St. Augustine's saying that the "Exchequer takes what Christ does not receive." CARITAS.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. M., M.B.N.A.—You have omitted to give name and address as required by our rules; these not necessarily for publication.

To several Enquirers.—The prospectuses of the Nurses' Pension and Provident Society are already in the printers' hands, and we expect to be able to issue them at an early date.

NURSING RECORD BENEVOLENT FUND.—We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of 2s. 6d. from A. E. J., and one shilling from Miss Helen Dunn, towards the above fund.

LOOK not into the qualities thou mayst possess which are wanting to others; but look to those which others possess and which are wanting to thee, that thou mayst acquire them.

REMEMBER when fate has dealt kindly with you,
And blessed with its bounteous store,
That none should depart with an empty hand
Who seeks aid at charity's door.

HE who has a director by whom he is implicitly guided will arrive at perfection sooner and with more ease than he could possibly do by himself, although gifted with extraordinary intelligence and following the most learned books.

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