

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



[The Editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this Department.]

May 12th, 1902.

MISS PALMER.

One Month ago I wrote an article to the A. J. for publication—shortly after I received a letter from you stating the article had been Condensed some—lack of space Necessitated it, the article has never been published—kindly return the Manuscript to me for which I enclose a stamp—the meeting in Albany a short time ago served to Convince me that the JOURNAL is Controlled by a body of Narrow minded women that dare not publish the Opinion of its subscribers.

Respectfully

J. CURR.

[Will this lady kindly send her address to the Editor, who will take pleasure in returning the manuscript.]

FOND DU LAC, WIS., May 7.

DEAR EDITOR: Will you kindly publish in your JOURNAL answers to the following questions: What is the modern treatment of small-pox? What methods are used to prevent scarring? Is there any treatment that will hasten the disappearance of the red spots? In caring for a case of small-pox, what especial symptoms must the nurse observe?

I am a subscriber to THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING, and am *delighted* with the many helpful things it contains.

E. V.

[Will some of our readers who have nursed small-pox cases reply to these questions?—ED.]

DEAR EDITOR: Many people imagine because a nurse receives twenty-five dollars a week as remuneration for her services she should amass a fortune, but do not stop to consider the necessary outlay. To succeed in her profession a nurse must live well,—that is to say, within the bounds of propriety. As to the average expenditure for clothing, it is impossible to make an estimate, as tastes differ. I believe that nurses should dress *plainly*, but *well*. The buying of cheap material is not economy.

Few nurses are employed more than two-thirds of the year, and during the remaining third expenses must be met just the same, so there is considerable outlay without any income. I have found among friends in the profession that private nurses invariably have some burden to share, family or otherwise, and find plenty of use for all they can spare from their earnings. I have done private nursing in several small Western towns as well as large cities, and find the average amount after expenses are paid is about equal. For instance, in one town private nurses receive fifteen dollars a week and find suitable rooms and board for three and a half or four dollars. In large cities, where the salary is twenty-five dollars, the same expenses amount to six and a half or seven dollars. Whatever the salary and the expenditure, I consider it the duty of each nurse to lay by a certain amount of her income for future use. Have a definite object in view. It seems to me from my personal experience that an