

Letters to William Farr (1807-1883), statistician

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The Compensation of my
disturbed State of
Mind has been a
conquest of the Sanitary
Cause & have made
for Shadow. No less
a person than Lord
Napier. [I managed
to scramble up to see
him before he sailed]

2. About your Prison Portability
paper, I have ascertained
from the W. O. that
there is to be no Meeting
of their Commission before
Whit & Lutherland come
back. So I have kept
your paper for Dr.

Dutcherland & see here
before it goes into Committee.

3. Don't forget to send me
a "Recensement" for my
Directeur de l'Assistance
Publique at Paris - who
asked for it.

Ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

My happiness was so bound up
in those two guns we have got
back from Bohemia. But Mr. S.
Lawrence won't give them to
Ed Hartington. He will give
them to me. And I shall
mount them on the noble
leads attached to this
manuscript. And I shall

3
teach my cats to be Artillery
men. And I shall use
them against all my
enemies of Victoria to
St Paul Mall (including
Dr. Lutherland)

By the way, have
you seen Surgeon
Rennie's attack upon
you "story of the

"Bhotan War" p. 235 -
upon your "Proseology" -
"Sun. Stroke" -
J.M.

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Mr. P. H. H. H.

It was after this time
Bengal Sanitary Comm-
wrote to me privately
for it. I did: write
officially - In the mean-
time I asked you: &
you kindly sent (& I
sent them) a note
on the way of determining
Bengal Sanitary Comm-.

So, your great note,
I should much like
to see it. Dr. Lutherland
return, as the Indians
have got your little
note. And I have

Private

5474/99/1

99

317239

19/1/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Carr
I have a great deal
to thank you for & a
great deal to say -
but less than usual
time & strength to say
it with.

Dr. Lutherland
has been sent to
Algeria with my
Indians - (they might
just as well have
been sent to stand at

Retter's) and I have
all his own business
besides my own, to do.
If it could be done,
I should not mind.
I had just as soon
wear out in two
months as in two
years. So the work
be done. But it can't.
It is just like two
men going into
business with a million
each. The one suddenly

with draws. The other
may work himself to
the bone - but he can't
meet the engagements
with one million which
he made with two.
Add to this I have
been so ill since the
beginning of the year
as to be often unable
to have my position
moved from pain
for 48 hours at a time.
But a business.

1. I thank you immensely
for your note on
determining Prison

III
 which I could do any
 thing more for R.D.
 Thomson's family.
 I am utterly disappointed
 at Ed Russell's letter
 but not surprised.
 I am entirely without
 influence there now.
 If I have any, it
 would be like that of
 the man dividing the
 pie from Cork, to
 make it go to Cork.
 Could Lord
 Shaftesbury
 do anything? I have

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 written to the Army
 Sanitary Comm: here
 & say so -

You shall hear -
 I don't want them
 I have any important
 meetings till Dr. S.'s
 return -

But - keep your heart.
 Dr. S. thinks the world
 moves round himself
 & that all business
 stops naturally till
 he comes back - both
 in India & in England.
 He makes no arrangements
 for it while he is
 away.

II.
I send you the (same
which you had before)
Bengal Sanitary
Report - only with
its Appendix on -
Also, some M.S.
notes thereon from
India which please
retain to me. When
done with.

I believe there is
a copy of the Report
coming for you, which
I shall forward to
you instantly - But
in the mean time

I send you mine -
because you can, and
I can't, make more
other use of it.
I am told that, as it
has been published in
Bengal, you may make
public use of it.
Which, I am sure,
is most earnestly to
be desired. [You will
remember you kindly
asked me this
question.]

I enclose your note on
the (first) copy (without
Appendix) to its destination.

him (at his request)
all our Poor Law Board
(published) documents.

I will write again
to morrow

Ever yours sincerely

Thos. Sturt

35 South Street,
St. Mark Lane,
London. W.

5474/99/3

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317230

but a powerful friend
Mr. Lord Palmerston.
I rarely asked him
to do anything in the
Cabinet as you may
suppose. But if ever
I did, he made a
joke. But he did it.
To my mind, he was
a far greater man
than his successor

IV

I thank you much for
Marette's letter -
Which I returned.

V

M. Kuper, Directeur
de l'Administration
générale de l'Assistance
publique, 20 Paris,
Whom I dare say
you know, & with
Whom I am on the
most "affectionate"
terms, writes:
"J'ai également x x x lu

dans nos journaux que le
recensement des classes
pauvres venait d'avoir
lieu pour toute la
grande Bretagne. Si ce
important travail de
statistique a été publié,
je serais très désireux
d'en posséder une copie
et j'ai encore recours à
votre obligeance pour
me le procurer x x x"

Does he mean your
Census? And, if so,
would you be kind
enough to send me a
(another) copy for him?
~~It does he mean~~
I have lately sent

5474/100

(100) 317230
March 13/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Barn
These people worry
me past my patience.
But I have looked
how thro' all my
stores, & cannot
find one copy left
of the forms which
you were so good as
to send out & which
they have "mislaid".
Have you any

copies of the forms
which you were kind
enough to send round
for us to all the
Hospitals?

If so, would you be so
good as to send me
one copy? returning
me the enclosed
(which makes me
so impatient)

Ever yours sincerely
P. Nightingale

May Commissioners.

Let them rest not in
peace
England will be ashamed
of herself some day
about that.

May I send you a copy
of a Report from the
New York Immigration
Commissioners? - And
will you look at the
pages I have turned
down as to the Mortality
^{in the ships.}
- do has had this good
effect, that our Immigration
Commissioners will now
be the subject of

5474/101

317230
June 19/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Farr
I never seem to write
you unless I want
something.

M. Dupon, Director
of the Assistance Publique
at Paris, & one of the
best administrators in
Europe, is coming over
(from Paris) from July
1 to July 6 & study
the Poor Law system
in London.

Among other things
he asks me to apply
to Mr. Villiers [I have

done so but am referred
to you, as they have not
what Dr. Keegan wants]
for the Statistics of Mortality
of Infants in Workhouses
the London Workhouses
& if possible, in those
of the great towns in
England.

[Mr. Keegan is going
to publish these
Statistics for all Europe.]

I have never told you
how valuable we thought
your paper on Infant
Mortality.

Now have I ever
thanked you for all
your kindnesses in
sending me interesting
papers -

Mr. Lane I ever thanked
Mr. Code for his Cattle
Plague Mortality Returns.
Please do so. You will
be the saving of the
Nation in that matter.
But you know what
I think as to the Cattle

5474/102

(102) 317230

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

June 23/66

"Morales et Philizues",
of which he is a
member. And he
hopes that your assistance
(of this kind) may be
a step to it. These
Frenchmen don't all
well know how great your
labours & how great
their debts have
been.

Yours sincerely
Th. Nightingale

My dear Dr. Farr
Many thanks for your
note of June 23.

I communicated your
kind offer of assistance
to Mr. Huxton - And
he writes a very
grateful note in return.

He would like very
much to have, if it
were possible, for every
day in Hospital, & for
every Dispensary which
attends to him at

the Women's own homes
(including, I suppose
of course, Workhouses)
^{in the Army in Hospitals}
Tables filled up something
like what I enclose.
But if there were no
distinction of Causes
of Death, the column
"Total" would suffice.

Have you any means
whereby Tables such
as this could be filled
up?

It would you kindly
pardon for Mr. Kupon

copies of the Reports
of Hygiene in Institutions
in order to have the
proportion of Deaths
to Cases, as he desires?
I know how much this
is to ask. [Frenchman does
distinguish Hygiene in Institutions
from Hygiene in Hards of Workhouses.]

Mr. Kupon alludes
very feelingly to his
desire that you should
obtain the place of
Correspondent to the
"Académie des Sciences

5474/103

(103)

317230

Aug 6/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Farr
Many thanks for
your note about the
Cholera -

I have looked in
vain in the "Times"
for your 'Daily Return'.

If it is printed,
would it be too much
to ask you to send
it me? - as long as
you publish daily Returns.
Indeed I think

is most lamentable - &
almost a signal of
the retrogression of
England in these
matters - & the
want of any efficient
action or organization
in such an out-break,
as far as measures
of prevention go -

Yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

how is turned?

You say well: that people
ought not to relax their
excisions yet.

And what a farce, a
cruel farce, that Sanitary
Reform has been.

As has been truly said,
it is the local Boards of
Works themselves that
create the nuisances
they are intended to
remove.

And memorializing
the Secretary of State is to
drush waste paper.

But my experience is,
that, both as to sanitary
law & as to town law, the

Private
& Confidential

5474/104/1

(104) 317230

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Sept 29/66

My dear Dr. Farr

I have given answered
yours of Sept 14.

I am sorry to say that
we can't give you a
paper on our "results"
in India. Dr. Letherland
is inspecting at Gibraltar.
And, in the deepest
mystery, I tell you that
I am not at all satisfied
with the way we are
getting on in India.
It is a long story - & one

which I may trouble you
with some day - but not
now. By an incredible
fatality, despatches of
Sir J. Lawrence have been
twice mislaid this year
for some months at
the India Office - one
of January 20 was not
found till May 3^d -
& then only by Sir J.
Lawrence writing to me
with his own hand an
abstract of his own
despatch. On June 10
Lord de Grey answered
it. That very night

Ministers were beaten.
And Lord de Grey's
answer was not kept.
The consequence is, that
there is no sanitary
service - really I speak
of - at this moment
in India - tho' it has
been preparing for years.

I must thank you now
most cordially for
sending me your Daily
& Weekly Returns.
I am thankful to see that
Cholera is declining -
[mainly thro' your exertions]
but ought it not to
decline faster, now the

accept Mr. Limon's decided
and Reports. We always
inspect, outstare - in
person.

Now you will say I am a
Quinace - I come under
the Quinace Removal
Act. And Mr. Limon, if you
write to him, will gladly
put it in force against me.
Now I shall have been
the only Quinace Mr. Limon
will ever have removed.

Ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

35 South Street,
Stark Lane,
London. W.

5474/104/2

317230

Boards of Guardians constantly
unstable & administer
the law, merely ^{in order} to defeat
it.

I am not "cursing &
sweating" merely for
the sake of cursing &
sweating, but I shew
that, if you had not
"kicked up a row," (like
a lion on a coat of arms)
nothing would have been
done.

You know I am entirely
recalcitrant - as to your
Mr. Limon's Motive.

Mr. Limon is an arrangement
of the Privy Council for

Making the bigger Body,
which is a big quack,
appear (to the lesser Bodies
who are little quacks),
I know something.

Mr. Simon, not, perhaps
more than but in common
with, Doctors in general.
(With some splendid
exceptions, of which
I put Mr. Paget at the
head) has, during the
last few years, been
bringing down Medicine
including Sanitary Science,
from a profession & a
trade - a trade, that is
to sell an Article called
a prescription (or an

operation) to the sick
individual, said to be
for his health - & also
a much more critical
prescription, equally an
article of trade, to the
sick Nation, represented
by the Privy Council (for
£1500 a year) said to be
for the health of the Nation.

Now what makes me more
frantic is that Mr. Simon,
who is a pharisee in
every sense of the word,
says "paye's de sa
personne". That as we
are at the War Office, ^{Board,} ~~Board~~
in India, we should never

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317230

Could you kindly tell me,
some day [it is for a
practical purpose]
what the Mortality
of Romsey (Nampetisho)

is?

And what it ought
to be?

J. Wright

29/9/66

a proof of the soundness
of her principle.

S. J. again:

Many, I had almost
said, most of the ~~workhouse~~
& Hospital Matrons in
England are dead at
£30 a year.

Does Miss Barrett think
that, if we were to offer
£150 a year, we should
get a good Article at
once? -

I know not.

And I say this from no
theory, but from actual
experience.

The demand is now so

5474/105/1

(105) 317230

85 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Oct 17/86

My dear Dr. Farr
I am very much obliged
to you for your note &
also for your Address -
which I had been trying
to get in full - of course
you will publish it
separately.

I will not now take
up your time about the
Barrett-Stewart Nurse
question - only just to
say this:

in a practical Trade
like mine, it does not

do to go solely upon the
"supply of books on
economic principles".
The "Supply & Demand"
principle taken alone
- the 'L' hope I always
bow down to it - is a
fallacy. i.e. as Miss Garrett
(is said to have) put it.
It leaves out altogether
the most important
element viz. the state
of public opinion - the
degree of education of
public opinion at the
time. You have to

educate public opinion
up to the state of
wanting a good Article.
Because the public
pays readily for it
(or highly for it) is not
at all always evidence
that it is a good Article.
On the contrary.

E.g. you would not say
that Morrison's Pills,
Holloway's Ointment, Old
Parr's Life Pills which
have certainly ^{been} paid for
at a rate which Miss
Garrett refuses to would
secure "good books", are

"of 'Lady Nurses' in epidemics," I think she has done us the worst turn of all. She has encouraged "ladies" to rush in where angels fear to tread, & to think that they can nurse by inspiration - just what I am always telling them they can't do. It is this that makes female work so bad. What would you say if Miss Garrett were to tell men that in "wars & epidemics," they could act as surgeons by inspiration? - Yes, what is the real difference?

Pray forgive me this long note & believe me
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

5474/105/2

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What she says - that, in epidemics, wars & emergencies, the "Lady Nurses" may then come into play. This is the very thing that I have set my face against; my whole life. It was the cause of all our misfortune in the Crimea. It is, in fact, saying this - at times when the greatest skill is wanted, we will admit the most unskilled - at times when the worst cases require

85 South Street,
St. Mark Church,
London. W.

the best nursing, then
we will have the
worst nurses.

It is what the Geneva
Conference said.

What I have said (& done)
^{in the past} - have always a
staff of trained Nurses,
(trained "ladies" among
them) ready in the
Military Hospitals to go
into war - & not only
trained Nurses, but
trained Governors,
Officers of all kinds.
Why did we fail so
disproportionately in the
Crimea in Officers of

all kinds but because
we adopted Miss Parrett's
principle? -

A "lady" will train as a
Nurse better than a
woman of the lower
class. And there is
no better ^{trained} ~~lady~~ ^{lady} among
them than a ^{trained} lady
serving among them -
& no worse (of this
Miss Parrett may be
assured) than an
untrained lady serving
among them. [I am
not now speaking of
Superintendents]

So far from being pleased
by her admission about the "value"

"Questo è il vero ultimo."

I am so puzzled by "first," "second & third class," (as if Miss Garrett & Mr. Stewart were dividing the human race into rail-road carriages) that I don't know whether she considers Governesses as "Ladies." But if she does, she can't be ignorant - (at least, I am not - for I once kept a Governess' Hospital) that there are unaccomplished "Ladies" tooting away as Governesses their miserable useless lives at £20 or £30 a year, who as Head Nurses ("Sisters") - but for her invidious definitions of classes, - might lead useful

happy lives at £50 or £60
a year -

But then Hospital life is not
for the "upper class" and
poor man's life is -

And this unnatural prejudice
Miss Parrotte appears to
support -

T.N.

I am very sorry your
Cholera is still so bad.

T.N.

"was a part of your plan".
And we have secured good,
& shall secure better, pay
for our Artists.

[Indeed, as I have mentioned,
it is not the offer of good pay
that is ever wanting. It is -
the ^{capacity} want of the Artist -]

So is, of course, impossible
for me to go into Miss
Garrett's paper, at length.
For it would be, in fact,
re-writing the whole
paper.

I will mention only a
few of the most palpable
inaccuracies.

E.g. I think the harm done
is incalculable, by striking the
gap, page 2, between the "commercial"
"religious" spirit - & by actually making
synonyms of "religious" & "volunteer". Will

Embley
Romsey

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106
Oct 20/66

My dear Dr. Farr
Thank you for sending me
Miss Garrett's paper.

The looking it thro' has
considerably mollified me -
tho' I am afraid you will
think the reason why, a
very impertinent reason.
It is because the paper is
so superficial, & there are
so many inaccuracies staring
in the face of any one in
the least conversant with
Hospital life, that I don't
think it will do our cause
any harm - And I think
it clears up the ideas

say much of any person, who
is conversant with Hospital
life, I read such a paper
as this.

[I will return to the
subject of the inaccuracies.]

In the mean time, I think
your own note the best
commentary.

You say, for which I
thank you a thousand times.
:-

"it" (the St. Paul) "aims
at making nursing an art."

This puts the whole question
in six words.

And I don't know that
I want to add a word
more.

You never yet made an
artist by paying him well.
But an artist ought to
be well paid.

Agreed, agreed, a thousand
times.

But Miss Garrett puts the
cart before the horse. We
get a better price for our
Article, because it is a
better Article. We did
not ~~have~~ ^{have} a better Article,
because we gave a higher
price. [The Article did
not exist when we began
(or exceptionally only). I
will return to this.]

You say truly: -

"the payment of the Article

But I have repeatedly & positively refused to be a party in assisting any Hospital & make a treaty with any Sisterhood, for the sake of "economy".

Even in R.C. countries, where Hospitals are, as a rule, run by Sisterhoods, the Civil administration always pays for them. Where the Order has no foundation, this payment constitutes their only support, & that of their other works.

They are earning their own livelihood in exactly the same sense as our paid Nurses are - only that the payment is made to the "Sisterhood" & not to the "Sister". But, as King's Coll. Hosp., the payment is made to the "Sister".

the forgive me if I say that I know none but the most fanatical of R. Catholic Archbishops who would write as the dags on this. Certainly no R. Catholic religious order.

Inaccuracy.

1. p. 3. The "Matron".
In no Hospital up to the last 10 years had the "Matron" anything to do with "overlooking" the Nursing - scarcely even with "controlling" the Nursing Department.

Even at the present time, very few have.

This is one of the most essential reforms we have introduced.

p. 5. (describing the "Lodge" system.)
"The main difference is that the control no longer rests with the Matron".
What can she mean by this?
It is because we have changed

the word is Superintendent,
(because the Matron does
not properly "control" or
"superintend" the "Nursing
Department.") that she
makes this blunder? -
She mentions King's College Hospital
immediately afterwards
as being under this régime.
p. 6.

(Civil Hospitals I
know, (tho', of course, I must
not be quoted in this) where the "Nursing Department"
is really "under the control
of the Matron" are:

King's College,
St. Thomas -
tho' Mr. Wardrope is called
Matron
& Miss Jones Lady Supt.
[Indeed, by the enemy I
have frequently been told that

the latter "controls" too much.]

2. The question of "economy"
is inaccurately introduced,
not only by Miss Parrott &
but by the "Lancet" & Millers
Hospital, p. 6, 7, 8, & passim.

It is generally very little
known that King's College
Hospital pays as much
for the services of St. John's
House as the usual price.
Alas: that a "lister" (lady)
is never refused because
she cannot serve gratuitously
or pay for her board -
& that many, including
the very best & superior,
have ever known, receive a
salary.

But, you see, Miss G. can afford
this.

And I can't answer her.
Of course I am not at liberty
to publish these particulars.

"Austen" can perform these properly. & that the more "cultivated" the woman, if trained, the less she dislikes them.

But I would say the same, in an inferior degree, for the Under Nurse. Her work is not at all the same as that of an under-servant. Least of all is the Night Nurse's.

5. p. 12.

The two "reforms" which Miss G. suggests are:—
What?—

1. good wages

2. supervision by night.

I think I might perpetrate a very bad joke on this.

But I refrain.

I enclose your immortal phrase

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Is it not a pity that Miss G. should not have informed herself on these subjects?—

3. p. 9.

Where does Miss Garrett find that "a lady, with very little training, does hospital nursing (or any other sort) in a first-rate way"?—
We must have very little idea of what "first-rate" hospital nursing is.

The idea of the French Sisterhood is so different from Miss Garrett's that they, who fall under these, her pen, consider from 3 to 5 years the time of training. And I consider 2 years the minimum.

Three fourths of the whole mischief in women's lives in England is that they suppose themselves exceptions from the laws of training to which men bow.

And here is Miss Parrett encouraging this fatal idea.

However, as Dr. Stewart spares me as "giving up" "ladies" (as Nurses) because they can't undergo the training necessary, he rather neutralizes Miss G.

See p. 9.

Miss G. knows "Nursing" to "Cooking & Ducting."

As I think the poor patients would find a very great difference if the "Mistress

of the household" were to send the "Cook" or the housemaid, instead of going herself, & procuring a qualified Nurse, to attend upon her sick husband or child.

The fruit of my whole life is indeed lost, if people have not got farther than this - if they still confuse Nursing with Cleaning.

The head nurse has nothing to do but what with these, farther than I superintend them, exactly as the "Mistress of a household." But many a life has been lost because the Head Nurse did not know how (or did not choose) to do the operations of "a patient's business," especially for men patients. And the fact is, that no "Cook" or

day.

I wish I had had ten minutes' conversation with Miss G. before she wrote her paper.

I think she would have written it differently.

I believe Miss G.'s own Art is Midwifery - & that she excels in it.

Would she apply her principles to her own Art?]

N.B. I wish, [p. 13] to attract to the service a far better class than "domestic servants".

They have that career open to them. But even an "Under Nurse's" life in a Hospital requires far more intelligence, power of control & of self-control than any "domestic servant's". It is not merely a question of being "less comfortable" - p. 14.

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about an Art.

And I would ask Miss G. to apply her Panacea, her Thorium's Pills, & the "reform" of any other "Art" & see how it will do.

Take the "Art" of Sculpture.

[Michael Angelo is said to have worked very much as right at his sculpture, with a candle stuck in a ball of clay on his head, during the siege of Florence]

Let us ask Michael Angelo whether

(1.) good pay

(2.) right supervision

would "reform" Sculpture.

But let us take what Miss G. says - gives as her reasons: -

(1.) good pay.

the quote, p. 12, a "report"

which has received more blame
than its utter incompetency was
worth - for appointing the
"reporters" of which the
Master was called over the
Coals - the Officers of the
Hospital (to which they
belonged) laughing at the
transparent job - the very
passage which she quotes
was known to be a covert
assault on the two most
valuable Hospitals of Officers
of the Hospital - in order
to insinuate that the
"improvement" in the Nursing
was due - not to their
training but to the higher
pay which the "N. Fund"
enabled them to give.
And this very passage
Miss G. endorses with
her authority.

Surely this is putting the
cart before the horse, with
a vengeance: "climbing over
the house to unlock the
little gate."

The "little gate" is unlocked by
the little key - viz. that in
St. Thomas' there is, thanks
to Mrs. Wardroper, & Mrs.
Whitfield, the best training
school in Europe - & that
the Hospital replenishes
its own staff from these
trained Nurses.

And Miss G. & Dr. Bristowe
attribute the "improvement"
of the "pay"!!!!

Guy's has improved its
"pay" but not its "Nursing"
- except in as far as it
has taken some of our Nurses.
But this, again, you see I can't

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Blue Miss G. has so mixed
up "Religious," "volunteers,"
"educated," "ladies," & other
words that not only I but
others had not the least
idea that she meant this.
And this is done already.

I will only repeat here that
she is not aware of the
immense harm she does
in the minds of what she
calls the "Commercial" class
by separating. May be
getting in opposition to
the "Religious" & the
"Commercial" motive (or
"spirit"? -)

She may explain it as
she will. No explanation
will remove it.

The good ones say: - What!
won't she credit us with a

106/5
31723Q
(2) p. 14. "Night supervision."
The night is the only time
when no real supervision
or training can be given.
And therefore the Night
Nurse ought to be such &
so trained as to require
no supervision.

For, i. it is a fiction.
is there to be one Night
superintendent?

How can she give assistance
or "supervision" in an ~~sudden~~
alarming case? - in 10 or 20 wards?

How can she even see in 10
or 20 wards whether the Nurse
is awake?

ii. Or is there to be a Night
superintendent in each ward?

Then she had much better ^{be} the
Night Nurse herself. In ordinary
wards, there had much better
be but one bitter - up - & that
An experienced one -

To be giving directions, or
5

"Supervision" at night is
intolerable - other than
what every competent Head
Nurse picks (from her little
room adjoining the ward,
where she ought always to
sleep) when she has had cases

Exclude wars & Cholera
epidemics from the above.
In Cholera epidemics, such is
the stress & pressure that
the staff ought often to be
recked the same by night
as it is by day. i.e. there
should be two staffs, one
for night, one for day.

Exclude War Hospitals -
because the Orders are often
new & their work - the
cases are urgent. I, for one,
found it necessary to be about
nearly the whole of the night,
supervising the Night Nursing.

6. (p. 14.)

"Le soir de l'avis de Monsieur
pour la raison contraire".

"Le soir de l'avis" entirely
de Miss F. in what she
says here about
"unremunerated work
among women of the
educated class".

But she does not appear
to be aware that it is done
already.

P.S. She does not appear
aware that exactly what
she recommends, Paras 1 & 2,
is done already.

The salary is taken & returned
indirectly -

It is done by my Sup^t of
the Liverpool Workhouse
Infirmary & by many others.
Who are "ladies," with
"private incomes".

that passage reads of me who
have had really ~~the~~ charge
of crowded War. Hospitals,
including "Cholera" & all
other "emergencies".

I am afraid I should
indulge in a most indecorous
laugh at her expense, but
that the subject is really
too fatally serious.

With regard to her conclusions
pp. 19, 20, 21. they are
incorrupt or unproved.

Conclusions

1. Why should she limit it
to a class?
2. is absolutely defeating
her own principle of
"Supply & demand". The
idea of limiting the maximum!!
It is besides incorrect. A
good training Head Nurse is
worth more than £50 & p^{er} more.

3. Incorrect.

4. Contradictory.

A head nurse need not be
unpaid & must be trained.
In no case, does the "volunteer"
untrained system have such
fatal effects as in that of a sup^t.

5. Entirely agree. But is
it ~~really~~ ^{not} contradictory to "4"?

6. Miss J. is entirely ignorant
of the conditions of her
question. She omits
altogether India, Australia,
& Village Nursing in England.
If I could show her my
correspondence for one year,
she would see how wholly
incorrect her premises are.

[In a requisition I had from
India, one item was "193"
!!!]

I will only just add:—

1. With regard to separating the
"religious" from the "commercial" elements.

I never do so -
 S.S. I take up the first letter
 lying under my hand from
 this morning's post.
 It is from a Delhi Missionary.
 It concerns a "lady" now
 training at our School.
 He entreats me to get her
 & wait till they can raise
 the salary so as to make
 the Delhi appointment
 worth her acceptance.
 We are now training "ladies",
 salaried "ladies" - for New
 South Wales. This lady was
 to have had the appointment.
 She will now have to choose
 between Delhi & Sydney.
 She is not only "religious" but
 a Missionary.
 [What can Miss G. be dreaming
 about?] And I am not at all above making
 the best bargain for my "ladies".
 2. *Ceteris paribus*, it is not
 true, Miss G.'s principle - [Only

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 "religious" motive? -
 The bad ones say: - By our
 letters allow that this can
 only be done for money.
 "The labourer is worthy of his
 hire". The Clergy work for
 pay - & yet are supposed
 to be "religious".
 Would Miss G. apply her
 "Commercial" & her "religious"
 line of demarcation to the
 clergy?

7. p. 19.
 I have already said what
 I thought about Miss G.'s
 view of "volunteer help" in
 emergencies. She really
 seems to think that ~~for~~
 "stimulus" is the main duty
 of a Nurse. "Novelty" the
 main importance of her ^{presence} ~~work~~.
 I can hardly say how curiously

that I scarcely know what
her principle is.]

Good nurses are much the
same all over the world -
whether Augustinian nuns
or paid nurses.

But, ten years ago, the
average nursing of the
Paris Hospitals, marked
by Augustinian & other nuns,
was far higher than the
average nursing of the
London Hospitals.

This is a fact, & not a theory.
The former were trained, the latter not.

God speed the good nurse
day again, wherever,
whatsoever & whoever she
is.

But don't suppose that
I advocate unpaid nurses,
because I think "paid
nurses" a ridiculous criterion
of excellence. - ^{off} ^{of Nursing} F. Nightingale

(the Sept.)
[She is herself "Mother
of all the Saintry" !!!
She does not reside in
the Hospital]

I should appeal to St.
George's Hospital, & show
the utter failure of
"Night-Superintendence"
(of Nursing.)

I should appeal to Guy's
also, where wages are
high, & Nursing is not
improved.

Many other instances could
give her out of my
perpetual correspondence
with County Hospitals.

But - you are quite right
in saying that I could not

Private

5474/107/1

Smiley

Romney

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Oct 24/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Laro
A thousand thanks for
your wise, kind & suggestive
note.

In reply to your query,
they have not yet sent
us the information about
Romney - viz. what is
the death-rate of Romney?
What ought to be the
death-rate of Romney?

In reply to Miss Garrett,
I do not at all doubt,
as a "matron" - that the

can cite "two Hospitals" where
she knows the Matron to
have no control over the
Nursing.

I can cite all the Hospitals
in London, except "two",
where the Matron has
no real control over the
Nursing.

Those two are:—

St. Thomas'

King's College

And the latter of these is
ruled by a Sisterhood.

The fact is: that a Matron
having real control over
the Nursing is a modern
invention.

Ten years ago, it did not exist.

And even now, in most
English Hospitals, a Matron
only walks thro' the wards
once a day (at 10 A.M.)
I see that it is clean
under the beds—

has little real control over
the Nurses— & none at
all over the Head Nurses—
who defy her, even in
cases of drunkenness, by
appeal.

I think one of the Hospitals
to which Miss Garrett alludes
as is University Coll:—
Now I should ^{refer} ~~allude~~ to
Univ. Coll: as a ~~Hospital~~
which is nursed by ladies,
where the ladies are controlled,
where the Nursing is not
improved.— Where the
Matron has no authority,
nor the Superintendents either.

circumstances of being able
to serve without pay.
I remember our Mr. Clough
saying: - he would make
the test: to be able to
command pay.

Now entirely I agree with
him. How noble I think that
sentiment.

And I am happy to say
that I know many
"religious" women, who
have entered the Nursing
Service on Mr. Clough's
principles, from a
religious motive (the
unable compelled) & surpass
themselves & others by their
eccentricities, & have
been able to
"Command pay".
I long live then the principle of the

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enter into any controversy.
We have years of work
before we ought to begin to
talk.

Though, of all people, I am
the one who must recommend
publicity, who am always
urging the utmost
possible publicity in Hospitals,
yet such a discussion
as Mr. Hastings recommends
would do nothing but
harm at present.

Miss Forsett & her
discussion has done nothing
but harm, in as far as it
is known.

I. e. how could I put
in the papers the facts
I have given you in my
2

letter?

Reider, I have no time.
I must work.

In years hence, we will
discuss.

No discussion ever made
An artist yet.

in great haste
ever yours

Florence Nightingale

N.B. I re-echo entirely &
with my whole heart
your wise sentence:—

"So look at the ordinary
organization of work on
sound principles for the
main supply of Nurses
— as of Doctors."

So do I.
But as I do others have

understood Miss Garrett, she
would exclude Rosa Bonheur
(unless indeed R. Bonheur
was untrained & acted
for an "emergency") from Bro.
And, did you know a
most remarkable woman
Apt 23, a Duchesse Colonna,
who exhibited sculpture
at the Royal Academy this
year — she works harder
than a journeyman Mason
— works for money. & after
that all she has done — is
:— "J'ai bien travaillé."

The test of fitness for
volunteer for "religious" work
has been made by Rome —
by no means all — R. Catholics
— & Miss Garrett has been
understood (perhaps
misunderstood) I suppose
this view — & she: the

"Religious" "Motive" which
trains itself so well as
to be able to command
the highest pray!

Amen.

Says F. H.

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

is a moving event -

Yours sincerely
& gratefully

Florence Nightingale

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Smelly
Romney

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Nov 16/66

My dear Dr. Farr
Very many thanks for your
Romney statistics -

You say: - "Something must
be wrong. What is it?" -

Everything is wrong - particu-
larly the drainage.

Your shorted note has
produced a "sensational
prolonge", in the hands
of the very energetic &
enlightened Doctor who
is much interested about
drainage.

He says: - "Lampad

"that Romney has so high a
"death-rate in the tables -
"- it certainly deserves it -
"- the sanitary arrangements
"are detestable."

This unusual sentiment I
re-echo.

But - you know - "la
reconnaissance n'est qu'un
vif sentiment des
bienfaits futurs" - My
Doctor of Romney now
asks you the same
question for Winchester.
What is the mortality of
Winchester?
What ought it to be? -

You know, I dare say, that
the drainage arrangements
of Winchester are
"detestable" - & that my
cousin, M.P. for Winchester,
& I are on terms of a
"mortal & enduring hatred,"
because he won't do
anything and I will.

I am sorry to give you this
trouble, if you are so
very kind as to take
it for us about Winchester.
But I think it does good.
You ~~see~~ a communication
from the Registrar General's
Office to our provincials.

5474/109

Imbley
Romney

3172.30

109

Nov 20/86

My dear Dr. Farr,
Very many thanks for your
Winchester Statistic.

And now again I come: -
You know, "à reconnaissance
etc."

to order & help the
sanitary work at Romney.
Could you send me the
diseases, especially the
zymotic ones which
make up Romney deaths.
rate.

I have been there (for
10 years) in a capacity of

years (which I think I
must have in London)

You know how faithful I am
to Lord Palmerston.
Eighteen years ago, he sent
Dr. Lushington down to
Romey & inspect.

My father has a letter of
his (written in his
business time) of 12 pages
about Romey sanitary
affairs.

You know, I have no doubt
that Romey is one of
the oldest towns in England
— about the same age
as Winchester. Winchester

has sunk about 16 ft.
Romey more — vide Ken
Abbey.

You ask — what is the
matter? —

Damp, dirt, bad drainage,
over-crowding is the
matter.

There is probably a cess-
pool under every ^{old} house.
And the ^{river} Leet carries
the sub-soil — And probably
every house might
obtain water under
its own floor.

The whole level of the
town is below the water.

Ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

5474/110

(110)

317230

Nov 23/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Farr

Do you remember sending
me the card enclosed? -

I am exceedingly glad that
you are going to "statisticate"
the convicts.

This is one result of your
work about the India prisons.

I have been asked to
ask you to send me a draft
for no more, if you will
kindly allow it.

Very many thanks for the
Romney & Winchester Statistics
- I hope it will bear fruit.
Ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

the Capt. (of a Hospital)
must not only be a
competent man, but must
have had training, - and
that I cannot give the time
& strength to investigate
these things.

I would like you word
for a statistical man
sooner than that of any
man in Europe or America
- if that were all.

I fear poor "Middlesex" is
in a bad way on many
accounts - with which
moral reflection, pray
believe me, I am in haste,

Yours gratefully
Thistlethwaite

Private

5474/111

(111)

317236

Dec 19/68

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

{Middlesex
Hospital
Secretary}

My dear Dr. Farn

I have already had a
request from Lady Herbert,
very difficult for me to
refuse, because it was
brought on the ground of
Lady Herbert, to whom
Mr. Watson's recommendation
Mr. Wyatt was devoted -
But I did refuse it.
And I am glad of it,
because I should think
your recommendation a
much higher one than
Mr. Wyatt's

[I have also had an

application from a third
person, of Mr. Seymour,
whom I don't think
much about.]

But I am obliged to refuse
you, however unwillingly,
for this reason:—

It is not only as Secretary (of
the Middlesex Hospital)
for which your work for
your protegee would be
quite enough & more than
enough for me, that
the appointment is to be
made — but as "Secretary"
and "Resident Superintendent."
Now this may be an office

quite as special (in a Dept.)
requiring quite as special
qualifications as that of a
Superintendent of Nurses.

I am quite unable overworked
as I am, to make such
inquiries either as to the
duties of the office or as
to the competency of the
officer for fulfilling them,
as would alone justify
me in doing.

I have told Lady Herbert
that, when she remembers
in Lady Herbert's days,
the experience was in
inquiry taken & select
officers — one of the whole
Army for similar posts
in Military Hospitals —
she cannot but see that

I had been forced to
relinquish this "source
of supply" & to alter
my scheme, falling
back on the humbler
nurse, because I had
found that "ladies"
would not submit
to training.

Dr. Stewart himself
reiterated that he
said that I said
that amounts to this.
I say I cannot see
in Mr. H. B. Carter's
letter, taken in connection
with the proposal of
the Middlesex Hospital
(to which it was a reply)

5474/112/1

2

1867?

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(112)

its object - what
mistake would be made
out of any one
line which I have
written to you? - !

I therefore commend
it to your utmost
discretion.

And now I do hope,
my dear Dr. Fox, that
this is the very last word
you ever will hear
from me on this
matter - [tho' many, I
hope, on many others]

My best friends have
always recommended

me never & answer
never & read even
any public Min. state
ments about my plans -
And, if I did, my whole
life would have been
taken up with
discussion - especially
for the first 5 years
after the Crimean War.
And I mean rigidly
to adhere to this in
future.

My reason for giving you
so much trouble was
on this occasion was
that I was myself
quoted - this was the
statement made to me

not from one but from
many
[and I must say that
after reading what
Dr. Stewart himself
states that he said,
I should myself
have put the same
construction upon it
which my informants
did]

that a Dr. Stewart was
in the possession of a
private letter from
me to him, in which
I stated that, after
having applied the
"N. Fund" to a scheme
for nursing Hospitals
by "volunteer ladies",

Don't. Regulations, of her
trained, take her.]

I trust that God will
grant you patience
(if that is not profane)
to read me - This is
really
Finnis.

And believe me
Dear Dr. Lath
Ever yours gratefully
& sincerely, ^{the exacting}
young Howling Friends
Florence Nightingale

5474 | 112 | 2

³
The word which can
be forced into such
a construction.

But I really mean this
to be the very last word
I shall write on the
subject.

What he says & what I
say, after all, matters
little.

The real truth is in
what you said: -
That Nursing is an Art -
that an Art must be
acquired by diligent
training
that the Artistic must
command the highest
market pay for her

are. Not from any
standard set up by
Miss Garrett or Miss
Fightingale or Miss
any body - but from
her own exertions & value.
No claps should be
excluded from any
Art.
that each individual
Artist should be taken
on her own merits
Wherever you can
get her, & train her
to the highest
perfection & command
the highest pay.

I is perfectly true (what
I alluded to in the
unfortunate letter) that
I have always said
of Mrs. Harrop &
of H. B. Carter -

our object ought to
be to take any woman
from any clap, of any
church (provided
her qualifications are
suitable) & train her
as well as we can -
& then make the
best bargain we can
on her behalf for pay.
[I have also said - if
a R. Catholic nun
comes & will submit

San 2/67

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Lister

^{P. Stat.} I have kept the enclosed
too long. But I have looked
them carefully over. And
so has Dr. Listerland.
[I had not the opportunity
of shewing them to him
before to day.]

The Tables we think very
good.

But ought they not to
have put in a column
for State of Health
(i. disease, if any) at
time of discharge from
parison after expiring

of term of imprisonment,
or at time of transfer
to another prison. ? -
Do p.p. 6, 7 & 8 egg. Such
a column might perhaps
come in best.

Wen yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

5474/114

(115)

317230

May 20/67

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Farr
Many, many thanks for
your note of May 11,
your Report & two
halves (Saint Teresa said
that she began her reform
with a Saint and a half.)

I keep them all, upon
my principle of: - Never
give but always take.

I want a safe passage
& substitute for another
in a new ^{reprint} edition of the
"Working Copy Edition" of my
"Notes on Nursing". Referring

to female skirts I say: -
"Which the Reg. Gen.
would tell us the exact
number of deaths by
burning occasioned
by this absurd &
hideous custom."

That would be a safe
statement as to deaths
from clothes catching fire
in women at the
"fashionable" age
& put into my text? -
If you would be so very
good as to tell me this
without much trouble,
I should be, as ever,

Yours devoted & always
Yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

the last Reports of the
"N. Lond."

From all this you will
gather, that I look upon
the "lady," the "volunteer"
which I suppose means
the unpaid - as a totally
subsidiary & unimportant
point in Hospital Nursing.

The two important, may
essential points (in
Hospital Nursing) are,

1. That there should be
two collateral jurisdictions
a. the secular government
of the Hosp.
b. the government of the
Nurses

(as in Charing Cross Hosp.
now) <sup>vide my Appendix to
"Notes on Hospitals"</sup>

2. That every woman, paid

5474/115/1

(114)

317230

May 22/67

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Dr. Larn

I am exceedingly obliged
to you for your Holocausts -
which are just what I
wanted. But they are very shocking.

With regard to Mr. Lewin's
question: - it reminds me
of a great many things: -

1. I meant long ago to have
sent for your kind
acceptance a copy of a
paper on Workhouse Nursing
(which I was asked for
by the Poor Law Board)
& which has been presented
in a Report to the H. of C.)

& an Abstract of it which
I was asked for by many
Hospitals.

Also: - I send a copy of a
pamphlet on District Nursing,
actually established by
Mr. Rathbone in Liverpool
(the pamphlet is by him) -
Till we have such District
Nursing in London, we
shall have done nothing
- even when we have
reformed all the Hospitals
& all the Workhouses.

[You know I always concurred
with you: - Hospitals belong
to a stage of imperfection
or rather of non-civilization.]

Also: - I send an account of

the best Work: Infirmary
(that of Chorlton Union)
which has yet been built.

2. I have written nothing exactly
on the subject which Mr.
Lewis desires. I think

I sent you my "Notes on
Hospitals" - I was very
ungrateful if I did not.

But, unless you have it by
you, it may be convenient
if I send a copy now
(which please return to
me) - as Mr. Lewis may

like to look at the
Appendix (on Methods
of Nursing in Hospitals.)

I also send, as he desires,

driven by business - but
mainly because, in such a
subject, I think one ought
to write as a "preacher
of righteousness," not as
a Church controversialist.
Mainly because I think
one ought to write, ^{not for}
personalities, but for the
truth - not against Miss G.
But for conviction's sake.

Mr. Lewis' question ^{to write} encourages
me to go on. And I think
I shall try to write a short
"paper" on my Art,
referring only to ^{saying} ~~papers~~ as fallacies
which should be avoided
- at the next Social
Science Meeting
where you have a section.

2
or unpaid, should be
trained - trained & then
Art - an Art which no
person can conquer
without training - without
systematic, ^{practical} & exercising,
continuous training by the
best side.

The most singular test of
worthiness to serve God
in Nursing is: - I have
had a private fortune
left you].

I hold that I serve
according to "mercantile"
principles from the
"religious" motive [I
thank thee, God, for teaching
me that word] is the
highest service - the

service most according
with the purpose of God -
of which we are capable.

The "Lancet," quoted by Miss
Farnett, says: - "The Nursing
by ladies is the very best
Grosvenor England has seen."

Is not that type Medical
doctrine?

Because "ladies" have
happened to produce
nurses, who are better
than drunken old rats -
therefore all "ladies" are
good nurses.

Because, in some internal
affection that the Doctor
did not understand, he
gave something, & the

Patient got well - therefore
in all internal affections
which the Doctor does not
understand, give the same
& the Patient will get
well.

That is the type Medical doctrine.
And it would apply to
Politics just as well.

Why does Miss Jones, of Chapin
College & Chapin Hospital, succeed so well?
Not because her sisters
are "ladies," but because
they are trained.

When I saw Miss Farnett's
grave errors reproduced
in April's Macmillan,
I began an answer -
I never finished it
partly because I am so

especially as regards the
point whether any
practical course of
clinical training is thereto
attached? It would very
much oblige me.

Yrs

Dr. Farr

85 South Street,
Park Lane,
London, W.

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I send you the few words I
jotted down for Macmillan
(which please consider
private) & return it to me

I do not mean to
send it - (Merely to
remind you of the view
my experience takes (for
Mr. Lewis) but not to show him)

I had meant to ask you,
some day, whether you
could give me some safe
the 'general' view as to

1. the greater proportion of
women ("ladies"), if greater,
who, in England, have to
earn their own & others'
bread, than in other countries.
2. the average ^{rate} of housekeeper's
salaries - [my experience]

- rather an old one - being
that too, the Hospital
Head Nurse's salary, is
rather a high *poesnefer*'
salary.

But, as I have said, I took
upon this as quite a
subsidiary point.

My object is no more to
secure Hospital Head
Nurse's places for "ladies"
who would otherwise be
poesnefer - than I think
Miss Garrett's object
ought to be for to secure
them for the "lower middle
class" or for any class.

But I repeat - that Miss G.
is perfectly unaware how
many Sisters of Sisterhood,

aye, *Superiors* too, - are paid,
(being absolutely penniless -)
And quite right too!!

I have been so interrupted
in writing this.
Bey excuse its meanness
Believe me, ever, dear
Dr. Laro, yours very
sincerely & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

I have recently been asked a
question about the "Female
Medical College" - I especially
about Dr. Edmonds' lectures
- of which College I think
you are a patron -
Could you, without much
trouble, give me
your view of its usefulness -

Mortality at King's Coll:
please observe: The
Hospital Committee & Dr.
Prestley have told their
own story. I have not
told mine - Which is, if
it were worth telling, that
the person who asked me
the statistics & who finally
had the ward closed, was
- I. They wanted - to
have the ward for male
students & for "abnormal
cases of parturition". And
they have since applied to
us more than once to "build"
for them on the already
overcrowded ground of
King's Coll. Hosp: - Could
you fancy every ward in

Private

5474/116/1

116

317230

March 2/88

35 South Street
Park Lane
London. W.

My dear Dr. Lister
I enclose you, with very
many thanks, Mr. Spencer
Wells.

The figures are satisfactory
- but they would be more
satisfactory, if Mr. Sp. Wells
could take a small house
in the country, high & dry,
& operate there.

There are several points
besides which should be
noticed, - such as the state
of the patient, the period
of the disease, the precautions
taken during & after the

operation - as compared
with those which
used formerly to be
taken in the period at which it used
formerly to be operated upon.
However, this operation is
evidently entering the domain
of operative surgery with
a fair chance of good
results.

About "Dr. Nurson's" "incubations"
- it is an extremely awkward
thing for me to have to
confess that I don't know
whether I have seen them
or not.

He wrote to me in October,
saying they were coming.
Since then I have received

many hospital documents
from Paris, "Comptes Rendus"
& things - but nothing
which at all talked with
what I supposed these
"incubations" were to be.
I put off writing to him;
and now - could you
let me see the "incubations"
for a minute (I will
return them by
express) - in order that
I may know, before I
write to Dr. Nurson,
whether they are not
what I have, or whether
they are? -

About our deplorable ridiculous

Private 5474/116/2

317230

N. C. H. a dying-in ward,
probably one case out of
3 might not come out
alive.

But I am too sick at heart
to make a "row."

We have had a loss quite
irreplaceable in my dear
friend & pupil, Agnes
Jones, of the Liverpool
Workhouse Infirmary.
She had the simplicity of a
child & the power, quietness
& activity of a General;
she was pretty & rich &
young & witty - & never
deemed it have had an
idea in her head but to
be "about" her Father's.

"business" - And of that business she could get thro' as much in 6 hours as most women in 6 months.

If you know the difficulty there is in replacing her!!!

- I am now wholly absorbed in this miserable business.

I do think it is more difficult than it was I find a general in the Crimea.

And this is what makes me so heart-sick that people talk & write & juggle a pen - and think it will do for the "lower middle class" and here am I in my old age

trying in vain to supply a gap of this kind out of any class! (a well-paid position too)

"All they (which are in Asia) have turned against me."

"All" wo. "men forsook me."

This is what I say in my old

age But do not you betray me!

Ever yours most truly

Wright

"Could be of no use. I am
"one but" me. Now they
have consented to keep
their slips as a record
& regularly to look at
your sheets of Reductions
(which they have now
for the purpose) & be
carefully returned to me.
In considering their death-
rate among their patients
died at home, many
things, ^{as you say,} have to be taken
into account. One is,
that they, (the District
Nurses,) take the patients

5474/117/1

(117) 317230

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

Jan 23/69

Dear Dr. Farr

Many thanks for your
kind promise (about the
dying-in & fever inquiry.)

Dr. Lutterland bids me
add now a suggestion
that, if you took all the
Births, deducting excess
in multiple births, you
would obtain the women
deceased, minus the
still births - & that

on this number. You might
calculate the Death-rate.
We want to know the
percentage of Deaths
among women who are
delivered at home in
different Districts.

You will know so much
better than I do how to
tell what is wanted &
even what is wanted
that I stop here. [This is
only a Codicil to my
former Testament.]

Thanks too about Mr. Lewis
& the Liverpool Nursing
Statisticians in Districts.
I have been having a good
deal of correspondence
with them since you
were good enough to
make those Reductions.
And you have done them
great good in putting
them on their mettle
& directing their attention
to points which, before,
they thought of no
importance. Whereas,
before, they desired
me not to return them
the "Ship", as "those Ships"

5474/117/2

317230

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

turned out of the Hospital
as incurable. &c &c.
But they, the Institutions,
are alive now - And
a great deal of
valuable information
will be elicited, thanks
to you. Upon whom,
as a mark of gratitude
for past favours, we
shall shortly return
for more -
and yours more truly
F. Nightingale

John Smith - 5000
W

Midwives -

5474/118/1

& as Practical Midwifery
can only be taught in Hospitals,
what we have to do is to
find out the cause of
Hospital which is not
destructive to dying in women.

[Like every other Frenchman,
he expends a great deal of
wrath upon the total or
partial exclusion of
unmarried mothers from
our dying in Hospitals -
which, (tho' Lapeze with
him as to its being queer
morality,) is rather ill-timed
wrath, considering that poor
mothers go to dying in
Hospitals to die, but to
Workhouses to live -]
at least in a much greater
proportion.

Embley Romney

118

317230

35 South Street,
Port Land.

Aug 7/89

My dear Dr. Laro

I have ^{just} received Leforo's
"Maternity" thro' your kindness -
I could not restrain my
ardour from glancing thro' it
at once - but, tho' I have
done no more than this, I
must not indulge my ardour
at the expense of my
gratitude, but will thank
you at once (for the loan of it).

It is a most important
work - not however exhaustive
- & in some places disappointing.
e.g. tho' the Statistical tables

are many & good, he does not distinguish between Causes of Death, as you do.

also: he devotes too many pages to the different "Letters of Admission" (in different Asylums, in Institutions) - which certainly don't give the general view, (except to the reader.)

Then he gives a just amount of space (& of indignation) to the Paris "Maternity" - the death-rate of which actually reached in 1864 202 per 1000 - as we see from M. Nuxon's Tables.

but gives no plan.

[I have never been able to procure or to see a plan of the Paris "Maternity"]

There are however valuable plans & tables in the book of Vienna, Munich & "Maternity" - & also proposed plans for dying in Hospitals.

Englishmen must make haste. Or these Frenchmen will outstrip us.

Dr. Deform takes my view: that, as women will have children (tho' they had much better not) there must be

As I shall make the book a study, I will not trouble you with any more remarks at present.

2. I heard that, at the Leeds "Medical Association", of which I think you were a Vice-President, a paper was read upon Lying in Hosp. Mortalities - by whom I know not.

Should I gain any new information from it? - Was there any discussion? -

Ever, My dear Dr. Carr,

Yours truly & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

35 South Street, June 11/72
Park Lane,
W.

My dear Dr. Farr

I have none but my old excuses: want of strength & want of time. Which are the same thing: for my delay in returning you the enclosed.

I have scarcely any points to raise: none which have not occurred to you a thousand times.

Your principle of obtaining a Certificate of Death from a public Medical Officer is undoubtedly the true one. About the manner of carrying it out is the only difficulty.

You propose, do you not? in defect of a Medical Certificate to send the Officer of Health to give one after enquiry. But if the Officer of Health does his own duty as he ought (which perhaps he seldom does now) he would have but little time for private practice - which he now takes, or for any Registrations duty.

[Mr. Chadwick & many others I believe wish to keep him entirely to his special work.]

Even if the Officer of Health had time, is he not non-estant except in town? - For country villages

he does not exist

Should you think of employing the
Poor Law Medical Officer on this duty?

Br: Simply refusing burial without a
Medical certificate?

Br: Empowering the clergy & send a
Medical Man & give the Certificate?

These are merely points raised on which
I am quite sure you have long since made up
your mind upon sufficient evidence

Until the modus operandi is settled, we
could scarcely apply to Mr Stanfeld, especially
as a recommendation has already been made
to him

No fear, as you must, anything which
would hinder the Officer of Health still farther
from his duty.

[Have they not in Paris a distinct staff of
Officers - "Verificateurs" - for this work?]

I trust that you had a letter from me
thanking & paying my ^{statutory} debt for the Certificate of Death
of Mathilde von Raven -
also: with a long story about
Quetelet's Physique Sociale
its being out of print
& Oxford Final Examinations in these
its subjects.

May believe me

Ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Miss Heaton
Sanitary Education

5474/120

July 13/72

317230

(120)

please
John J. and
J. and

My dear Dr. Farr

I should always be glad to see your hand-writing & do anything, if I could, at your bidding, were I ten times as busy & twice as ill as I am.

I have a very great respect for Miss Heaton's work - And you know whether I am not almost inclined to attach too much importance rather than too little to any proposal for practically teaching sanitary things - a matter of life & death to millions.

Will you allow me to give such poor advice as I can (in obedience to Miss Heaton's request) through you? And then you will forward what part, if any, is worth transmitting to her.

As Miss Heaton so pretty says: the main difficulty lies in the training of sanitary teachers. There is a wide gap between distributing sanitary tracts & talking to Mothers' Meetings - and a proposal to duplicate the

William Farr Esq

teaching staff of England for Sanitary purposes
at the public cost.

Is it not a great objection to any scheme: the
making sanitary teaching a specialty?
Should it not be carried on by existing School
agencies? It is a branch of education: and
as such has been extremely well taught in
certain schools.

Will not a great deal of time be in all
probability lost in discussing this question
of Missionaries & getting their pay eventually
refused by Mr. Lowe?

The principle is beyond doubt what we all of
us most desire to see thoroughly established.
Should you not 'go for' its introduction in
(Government) Training-Schools for Teachers
so that the teachers, men & women, may be able
to apply the principles in their lessons?

There are several treatises for the use of Schools.
But as to these your advice will be better than
mine.

As to Mothers' Meetings which now, thank God, exist all over England in thousands:-

They are admirable places for giving instruction; and to do this the ladies themselves who hold them must observe, read up & think - gaining actual practical information by going themselves into artisans' & labourers' dwellings, so as to apply their own superior considering powers to the actual experience ^{which} of the poor dwellers themselves alone can have.

It is a matter of civilization, as you would say, in which the educated should teach the (comparatively) uneducated.

Is there any place at present where any woman could be sent for sanitary training?

I know of none.

Is this either quite necessary?

Many educated women have good practical heads - and with some reading & more thinking & most observation they can say all that is

necessary to mothers.

What is wanted is: not to make parrots
of them, but to make them think about & feel
about opening windows, cleaning houses, washing,
dressing & feeding infants properly. &c &c &c &c
"minding baby," in short. & "minding" sinks,
utensils, drains, dust holes, refuse &c.

The more quietly & without formality (of
lectures & staff), - the more thoroughly &
efficiently.

[N.B. The great temptation of ^{mothers} ~~women~~ in the
North is to go out & work in mills, even tho'
they actually pay more than they earn - in
'putting out' their infants, to be killed with
sleeping smothered. Such women would
better be reached by "ladies" & "Mothers' Meetings"
than by ^{any} formal organization of lecturing - would
not they? For they might actually be able
to repeat all that could be taught by lecturer,
as many a woman in "high life" can - & yet
leave their children - those to nursery maids,
those to old 'Daffy's' 'Glicis' beldames.]

School teaching would in time do the rest
would it not?

[A woman like Miss (Dr.) Elizabeth Blackwell
could do much good in a Female Teachers'
Training School.] May God speed the work! ever your sincerely
Florence Nightingale.

Private &
Confidential

L. Miss Heaton

5474/121

317230

(121)

July 13/72

My dear Dr. Farr

Will you allow me to confide to your
absolute discretion, leaving it to this solely what
you will tell Miss Heaton, some further details
in answer to her letter which I enclose?

The real difficulty is: in the training.
The way the proposer viz. to send them "for a
year" to the "British Nursing Assoc." which
has now at last very properly its
Training School in the R. Free Hosp. (the R.
Free) is: simply to turn them out rather
inferior Nurses without any sanitary
knowledge at all but what is heaven-born.

[I will not trouble you with all the vicissitudes
of that unfortunate Assoc. - which, as often
happens, I have laboured & assisted almost as much
as one of my own children.] It is now fairly well
on its legs - with a tolerable, not highly trained,
Supt. & with its School, as it ^{should} ~~must~~ always be,
in a Hospital - but is still, among Nurses
Training Schools, inferior among sanitary schools,
nil.

It would be however injudicious of me to say this - especially as I should not recommend any other - not even of my own.

Can Sanitary Knowledge (for health & not for sickness) be taught at a Sick Nurse Training School. Which must necessarily be in a Hospital, where the best that can be taught of Sanitary Knowledge is: how to keep a Sick Ward or Sick Room healthy?

I doubt it.

My experience does not at all go to finding that a good Sick Nurse makes ^{the best} a good Children's Nurse. or housekeeping = mother.

[You can see this even in Medicine. The best Pathologists by no means make the best Doctors, do they? - Does having the attention almost exclusively directed to disease include attention to the requisites for health? - I doubt it.]

2. I cannot dwell sufficiently upon the necessity of any lady Sanitary teacher going about themselves among the people, in order to ^{teach} any practical good. - Knowing for themselves the conveniences or inconveniences of the people's dwellings - what can be done & how to do it.

Without this, all the parrot Lecturing in the world
will do no good - All the thinking & reading in
the world will only draw rules & maxims out of
their mince-meat. 'Ich' & Rules & Maxims never
cleaned a room or fed a baby. It is like
a Doctor proposing to deliver a dying in case
without seeing her. It is like that Dr. who
made grand schemes, (on paper) about training
"pauper women to be Nurses". When we came
to do it, & under the best possible auspices, we
found that the only women whom we must
absolutely exclude from nursing pauper-patients
are: the paupers. [But nothing would ever
convince the schemer.]

One must know oneself the sanitary & medical
wants of the people & what to do to supply them
in order to do it & in order to teach them how
to do it. It is what I have done myself
all my life as long as I could 'get about'. And
I assure you I would not now undertake
practical teaching (I say it with grief) because
I can no longer 'get about' & see the defects &
how to remedy them for myself. If there is any
merit in my hints in the Labourer's Edition of
'Notes on Nursing', it is that there is not a word
except of practical experience in it. And

every day we must be learning practical
experience. Nothing stands still so little
as this. If we are not making progress
every day, we are going back a little every
day. But who am I to be saying this to such
a Master as you are?

3. I wish I could say or do something more useful
than all this. But I leave it in the hands
of a Master. And that is my comfort.

The importance of Miss Scaton's work is beyond
compare.

May God speed the work & the workers I say
again - & am ever yours most truly

Florence Nightingale

5474/122

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

317230
(122) Feb 27/73

My dear Dr Farr

I received your packet
last night.

I thank you more than I
can say for your note, & paper
with its kind inscription.

I will study the books &
return them to you - reporting to you
anything that may occur to me.

I have had a note from
our dear friend Quetelet, telling
me that he has sent me two
Opuscles - one on Herschel - which

have not come - I not
telling that he has set
about his 2nd Edit. of
'Physique Sociale'.

I think I will send you the note.

Yes: indeed I was sorry for
the loss of the Grand Duchesse
Helena. She was a noble &
useful 'power' -

ever yours sincerely

F. Hightengale

publish & dedicate to
him of the application
of his discoveries to
explaining the plan
of God in teaching
us by these results
the laws of our moral
progress: to explaining,
in short, the path
on which we must go
if we are to discover
the laws of the Divine
Government of the
Moral World.

5474/123/1

35 South St. ³¹⁷²³⁰
Park Lane W. (123)
Feb 23/74

My dear Dr. Farr

I heard quite accidentally
that Quetelet died last
week at Brussels.

If it be true, you will
know it. Please tell me.

I cannot tell you how
the death of our old friend
touches me: the founder
of the most important
Science in the whole world,
for upon it depends the

practical application of
every other: the Science
essential to all Political
& Social Administration,
all Education & Organiza-
-tion based on experience,
for it only gives the
exact results of our
experience:

he did not live to see it
perceptibly influence
Statesmanship &
Government in any
practical manner:

nor to influence Education
at all -

he did not live even,
I believe, to prepare
that Second Edition I
so pressed him for:

And I have not answered
his last letters: nor
thanked him for his
last pamphlet.

Some months ago, I prepared
the first sketch of an
Essay I meant to

5474/123/2

2

317230

I had pleased myself
with thinking that this
would please him -

But painful & indispensable
business had so pressed
upon me as to prevent
me from ever finishing
my sketch -

And now it is too late:
for him: or if done at all it
will only be an In
Memoriam -

And business is more painful
& pressing than ever to
prevent even this -

You who have so
worthily worked out
some of the most
important results of
the Master Science
are indeed worthy
now to give the world
some inspiring account
of our great Quetelet.

I have been at Embley
with my poor mother:
I return there in a few
weeks to bring her
away -

The last month deprived
me of two homes: my
dear father: & Mrs.
Bracebridge, more than
mother to me.

5474/124

317230

(124)

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

March 4/74

My dear Dr. Farr

- I cannot thank you
enough for your 2 letters:
- no one's letters are so
inspiring as yours:
- they are like a spring of
water in the desert.

I return with thanks
our dear old friend
Quetelet's Obituary Sheet:
one would like to know
more of the last days
of such a man:

one is glad to think
that he had so many
kindred:

but yet I think he would
not have liked his 'Theat'.
Do you remember how he
objected to the dying
being "munis des seconds
de la" R. Catholic "religion"?

Yet his was the very
highest kind of religion:
the seeking in the laws
of the Moral World which
he had done so much to
discover the action
or plan of Supreme Wisdom

& Goodness -

As soon as I have
studied your Census
Report in some small
measure as it deserves,
I shall write to you
about it: I can now
only tender my heartiest
thanks

I beg you to believe me
dear Dr. Farr
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

of genius & of accurate observation
which has produced such a work:
but also never without feeling that
such a man should have lived 150
years instead of 75: that it is but
an introduction & even an imperfect one
- & that the world might be reformed
& transformed [almost into the fabled
Millennium: there will be no heaven
unless we make it:] if it did but

Quetelet

5474 | 125 | 1

(125)

317230

35 South St.

Park Lane W

June 26/74

My dear Dr. Farr

My own feeling would be simply
in favour of a Portrait such as you
propose. Does it not appear the best
sequitur to the Brussels Buro? Has not
one to look into the future & see whether
in raising a high clasp monument to him
we reverse, ^{is} are ~~are~~ not raising a low clasp

monument to one self in after times?
We want to commemorate that

such a man had lived & that
such work had been done.

2. Is there much force in Medals or Scholarships
in such a case?

Have we not an absolute plethora of Statisticians
& literary Statisticians?

My feeling and I believe yours would be
to found a Medal in memorial of
our dear friend

to encourage young men to take
existing Statisticians, (his & yours & others,)
& tell us what to do with them?

[We want a similar Medal, do we not?, for
Meteorological observations.]

I never read Quetelet's *Physique Sociale*
(which I have done over & over again)
without being astounded at the force

317230 5474/12/2

know how to make use of the
Statistics which Quetelet has given us
in reforming legislation, Government,
Criminal law, Education, Institutions,
Sanitary practice, &c &c &c.

[Quetelet's chapter on Medicine alone
is a book for a whole Profession
to work out.]

May you who have done so much
already - and I - and this generation now
springing up ^{more & more} be called, to the sacred
duty of applying statistics to
reform the world!

I hope to be allowed to subscribe (^{money} that is a small matter)
to any Memorial: May believe me

dear Dr. Farr

Ever yours faithfully & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

I return the son's letter which I think
is beautiful. I feel quite glad that

he had such a son with him in his
latter end.

They have sent

me, probably thro' your kindness, the
printed account of his "Tunédailles".

Alas! I should have had such pleasure in
telling him what now is doing
for India - which may be crowned by a reform
of the Ryots' wrongs - & the Zemindar's 'rights'.

& all repetitions cut out, & the invaluable
matter transposed so as to be more
connected. Quetelet's *Physique Sociale*
& *Anthropométrie*. These standing
classics of his genius are almost (now)
wholly unknown at our Universities,
& among even highly educated English
people: tho' Herschel did so much
to popularize them once for us.

Ever yours most truly

J. Nightingale

5474/126

(126) 317230

35 South St
Park Lane W.

March 23/75

My dear Dr. Farr

You know how it grieves me not to do
at once anything that you ask.

But I shall be on Committee no more.
I hope to be permitted to contribute to any
fund that you may set on foot for poor
Dr. Rumsey. Your printed letter is
admirable. I wish all success to your good work

You know that there is to be a Meeting
on Thursday in honour of our dear
old friend, Sir Ranald Martin.

I have not yet thanked you for your
most kind letter on New Year's Day.
Yours is always the most welcome
encouragement that I have.

I received the other day from the son
of our noble & beloved old Gnetet
a sketch of his life & work, which I could
not help reading through at once.
Gnetet's work is always ^{& still} the subject
of all others which interests me most.
But I do not see it make the progress
it ought, especially in our places of
Education.

Could you not urge Mr. Ernest Gnetet
to republish, much shortened, & arranged,

5474/127

317236

Telegraph,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks.

To help - the age of woman
to study administrative men
than
glittering politics

Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

(128)

Generally speaking, except on
holidays, ~~not~~ to limit oneself to the
times the number of words that we
have of meaning

not to seek to do, like them so
much as to do the thing that is
wanted

to observe the results of charity.
Whether public or private, paragoning
or deparagoning

of schools & methods of continuing
Education thro' life

of prisons Whether once in prison
always in prison - or whether reforming
of training in nursing Whether
Hospital or private

I not to be looking some new thing
without knowing the results of the old

I in all things to consider life not
as a lecture or a book but as action
with results

Cause I effect - Not empirical

Dec 29
£15.0.0.

395

5474/128
30 Old Rushyford

W

March 14/58

My dear Dr. Farn
There were three
letters in the Lancet
yesterday against
our Army Medical
School. They are
easily answered.
But Mr. Herbert
has also received
demonstrations from
and has a copy
of P. for Dublin.

And we want to
have the Lancet
on our side.

Would you ask
the Editor not to
commit himself
till he has heard
our side of the
question?

You will find
Inghelard here
tomorrow at 6
o'clock. And we
will draw up
a statement

which we depend
upon you to
further upon the
Lancet, & make
them give a
leading Article
in our favor.

Yours most sincerely
F. H. T. J. G. W.