

secure their services, and the fees, none too large, which nurses are obliged to ask, make them a prohibited luxury to the vast majority of the families towards whom I sustain pastoral relations.

Neither do our hospitals, large and numerous and admirably managed as they are, wholly meet the difficulty. Some of the forms of sickness where nursing is so valuable, are either wholly or imperfectly provided for by our hospitals; as, for example, cases of consumption which are pronounced incurable, cases of erysipelas and the like. I am, moreover, occasionally learning of maternity cases where hardship and suffering are caused by lack of nursing, for which under present conditions no provision is made. In my own congregation I could employ one or more members of this new order almost constantly. So far, then, from driving skilled nurses from the field, additional employment would be found for them.

So far as the country is concerned, I can testify as to the need of trained nurses. I have been a country pastor, and, as I write, can recall instances where a member of the Victorian Order would have been as an angel of mercy indeed.

4. You seem to fear that the nurses will suffer in their own self-respect, and feel themselves objects of charity if they are supported in whole or in part by the income derived from this jubilee fund. Why should they? Is the physician, who derives some portion of his support from a benevolent organization whose members he visits, any less a man than his brother who does not? The money will be earned and honestly paid; whence the humiliation?

5. Your expression of fear that the physician will be displaced by the nurse becomes groundless in view of the fact that none but duly qualified nurses will be employed, and these, as past experience teaches, are in the best sense helpers, not hindrances, in the good work which your noble profession does so well.

I may add that members of your own profession in this city do not appear to share in the fears which you voice in your journal. On the contrary, many of the leading physicians are amongst its most enthusiastic supporters. I venture to enclose for your personal reading a printed copy of an address by Dr. Craik, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University. So far as I know, his views are fairly representative of the position of the more prominent physicians of Montreal.

With apologies for trespassing upon your attention,

I am, dear sir,

A MONTREAL PASTOR.

Montreal, May 11th, 1897.