LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

DEAR EDITOR: As a member of the Publication Committee, I wish to thank you for your spontaneous and friendly hand so cordially given to the *Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast*. Without your aid our impetus might have been less courageous and our assurance less. I believe you will have this proof in the fact that your JOURNAL is being more widely read by our Western nurses and that subscriptions are due to our relying upon it for leading information. Fraternally and sincerely,

MARGARET L. GOODHUE.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., January 27, 1905.

DEAR EDITOR: I am glad the question of nursing for doctors of different schools has come under discussion, and I hope that all nurses who have been *one-school* nurses will be set thinking when they read the letter in the February number by "One Who Hates Intolerance."

It is indeed a pity that any woman who has fitted herself to follow one of the noblest of professions should be so narrow, and yet I know of several nurses who have an idea that there can be but one school of doctors that is any good, when the fact of the matter is, it makes but little difference what school a doctor represents if he is conscientious, brainy, and has common-sense.

A doctor has his part to perform in caring for the sick, and while a nurse in a measure supplements the work of the physician, yet she has her own peculiar duty, for a patient needs much besides medicine. They need sympathy, and by that I do not mean the sentimental sympathy so often thought of, but true, womanly, cheerful sympathy that gives a patient moral courage—the kind of sympathy that enables a nurse to guide a patient with a strong, firm hand through a trying convalescence.

Let nurses be too broad minded and live on too high a plane to feel that our dignity is lowered if the physician in attendance does not happen to represent our pet school. Rather let us work faithfully by his side, earnestly striving to do our part towards assisting him to restore the sick one to life and strength, remembering always that our dignity is lowered only by our own conduct. If we always conduct ourselves as