

Cannock Chase, to which she was naturally appointed when the building was first opened. Miss Brancker, who was trained and is now a staff nurse at St. Bartholomew's, has been appointed to take charge during the ensuing summer. The position is so cold and bracing that the home is only opened from May to November. An interesting feature of the place is that one bedroom has been set apart for the admittance of a sister or nurse, or governess, who needs rest and change of air. The terms are arranged for every such case according to the individual's means and position.

* * *

I DESCRIBED, in our third number, Sir Sydney Waterlow's scheme for training nurses in Egypt. With the rapidity of decision and execution for which he is so well known, I hear that he has already selected the two sisters who are to go out to initiate the working of the scheme at Cairo, and that Miss Munro and Miss Hughes have been appointed in consequence. Miss Munro was trained at St. Thomas's, and has for some time filled the position of sister of the Victoria Ward at that hospital. Miss Hughes was trained at St. Bartholomew's, then received an appointment at Netley, and from there was despatched to Egypt; so that she brings to her new work some local knowledge as well as a great deal of general nursing experience.

* * *

NURSES AND EMIGRATION. — Several emigration societies appear to hold that there is a good field in Canada for trained nurses. The Canadian Government itself, however, qualifies this by saying that, "A few really clever women could always find employment." So they can everywhere, say we, if patient, and hopeful, and practical. We do not advise nurses to trust too much in the current high-coloured statements respecting fields for nursing abroad, but if they really desire to try their fortunes out of the mother country, they ought always to be particularly sure that they are wanted before they start; and the agents general in London of any of the colonies and dependencies will always supply the requisite information.

* * *

I AM glad to find that many other hospitals besides St. Bartholomew's are now kindly sending me items of nursing gossip. I have just received a most interesting letter from a well-known lady at Haslar Hospital, from which I extract the following note *apropos* of the foregoing scheme for training Egyptian women as nurses. She states that this is not the beginning of a new work, but rather the continuation of what was begun under great difficulties six years ago by Mr. Herbert Milton—formerly of St. Thomas's Hospital, now Inspector-General of the Government Hospitals in Egypt. To show what the state of affairs then and previously was, and Mr. Milton's efforts to amend them, my correspondent kindly gives the following quotation from a letter written

by that gentleman in March, 1882:—"I wish I could beg, borrow, or steal two or three St. Thomas' sisters, and set them to work to reform this den of abominations they call a hospital. Did you ever read an account of the jails in England a hundred and fifty years ago? Well, the Government Hospital in Cairo is fifty per cent. worse, and although I have been working hard at it for some ten months I have as yet made no impression. After six months' hard work, I have at last got together six native girls, whom I call probationers, and am trying to teach them how to nurse myself, as I have no one out here to help me. The painful thing is that when I begin to teach I find that I know nothing, and a sort of dim conception arises before me that there must be a good deal more in making a bed than I ever dreamt. However, when I get into extra deep water, I go up to the Citadel Hospital and consult Miss Airey, who puts me up to many a wrinkle."

* * *

THIS work has been continuing ever since, and when Mr. Milton was in England last year he spoke with great satisfaction of his Arab probationers, and of the gentleness and docility of these dark-skinned girls. They wear their native dress, but are all in white as a sort of uniform; and instead of a "Nursing Home," they live in the "Harem" of the hospital, with an old Arab lady to take care of them and act as a sort of *duenna*. It must be a cause of great satisfaction to all concerned that, through Sir Sidney Waterlow's influence with the Khedive, the two English sisters I have before mentioned will shortly be on their way to continue and complete the training of these native probationers.

* * *

LAST week I noticed the appointment of Miss Ellen Smith to the Convalescent Hospital at Woolton. I hear that the vacancy thus created in the matronship of the Miller Memorial Hospital at Greenwich has been filled by the selection of Miss Edwards, who has been working in the institution for the last three years.

* * *

I REGRET to learn that Miss Anderson, the lady superintendent of the Children's Hospital, Paddington, has been obliged to resign her post and take less onerous work, for the sake of her health. Her many friends sincerely hope that the change of air and comparative rest may soon restore her to perfect health. She has been succeeded in her late post by Miss Augusta Forbes, who may be considered a specialist at the nursing of children. She was trained and worked at the Children's Hospital, Aberdeen, finally becoming the matron of that institution, after which she became a sister at the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

* * *

THE registration of nurses continues to be an engrossing topic of discussion. As I previously

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)