the Children's Hospital at Nottingham, to be used as a convalescent home for its little patients during his absence. He has most generously offered, moreover, to bear all the expenses connected with the scheme. It will be a great boon to the Nottingham bairns, over whom Miss Morse watches so vigilantly and with such successful results. By the way, I suppose the committee of the hospital know Miss Morse's value to the institution so well that they will not let her leave without a struggle; but it is a matter of much wonder to all who know to what a high state of efficiency she has brought the domestic management and system of nursing at her hospital, and how greatly her energy has contributed to its financial prosperity, that she has not been persuaded before this to transfer her talents and successful administration to a wider sphere.

I AM delighted to hear that a well-deserved tribute has been paid to military nursing in the shape of a handsome marble memorial, which has been erected in the cemetery at Southsea, in honour of the late Mrs. Fox, whose death was, by special order of the Duke of Cambridge, signalised by a military funeral. The inscription on the memorial is as follows: "Sacred to the memory of Mrs. George Fox, wife of Quartermaster George Fox, 2nd Connaught Rangers (94th Regiment), who died at Cambridge Barracks, Portsmouth, on January 22, 1888, from the effects of wounds received in the action of Bronker's Sprint, Transvaal. For her heroic and unselfish conduct on that occasion in nursing the wounded—desperately wounded though she was herself—she was decorated by Her Majesty with the Order of the Royal Red Cross. This monument is erected to her memory as a token of affection and esteem by the officers (past and present), non-commissioned officers, and men of the 2nd Connaught Rangers. 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant' (Matt. xxv. 21)." The inscription is surmounted by the regimental crest, a crown, an elephant, the word "Seringapatam," and "2nd Battalion the Connaught Rangers.'

A FRIEND of Miss Wood, the late matron of the Hospital for Sick Children, in Great Ormond Street, sends me some particulars of that well-known and greatly respected lady's nursing work and writings, which seem to me to strongly point two morals, one being that it is possible to devote all one's work to one specialty, and yet to obtain a wide and complete knowledge of the theory and practice of general nursing; and the other, that a woman does not become narrowed, but rather broadened, in her sympathy for all external good works by becoming a nurse. It appears that Miss Wood first joined the hospital at Great Ormond Street-and with which her name must be inseparably connected—in the summer of 1863, and became a ward superintendent in the following spring, in which position she than Miss Estcourt, who, by-the-bye, became

remained till 1868, when she went—but only across the road—to found (with Miss Spencer Percival), then open, organise, and carry on, the Hospital for Hip-joint Disease, in Queen Square.

In 1870 she returned to the Children's Hospital, and became matron of the newly-opened country branch at Highgate, of which she had the full charge and responsibility, as there was then no resident medical officer. There she remained till the end of 1878, when she was appointed lady-superintendent at Great Ormond Street, a position which she has filled until the end of last month. Twenty-five years spent in Nursing children, and all but two of them in one institution! Probably, in these days of restlessness and existence by steam, an almost unique life-work. But more surprising still, I am told that Miss Wood has all these long years been "working as a volunteer," and receiving no direct remuneration

In 1878 appeared the well-known standard work. the "Handbook of Nursing," which is now passing through the sixth edition. It made the reputation of its authoress at once, not only as a proficient in her calling, but as the possessor of unusual literary powers. It is small matter for surprise, therefore, that her pen has rarely been allowed to remain idle since. For example, she was selected by the Royal Commissioners to write the "Handbook on Food for Infants and Invalids" for the Health Exhibition The St. Barnabas Guild, of which in 1884. she has for long been a prominent member, has obtained many valuable articles from her for its Magazine, and The American Encyclopædia of Children's Diseases, a classical one upon the "Nursing of Sick Children." The periodical called Baby has published a series of her papers on the "Home Nursing of Sick Children," and this journal was fortunate enough to procure the latest production of her facile pen in the shape of the article on "Private Nursing," published in our second number. We have reason to believe that to the foregoing list could be added a long list of other writings on social, religious, and nursing topics, which have appeared in different periodicals during the last quarter of a century. But I have quoted sufficient to show what a great example Miss Wood's life and work furnishes us with, of high devotion to duty and great variety of usefulness.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL has had a great loss by the resignation of Miss Estcourt, who has been sister of the Alexandra Ward at that institution to the great satisfaction of the visiting staff, and great advantage of her nurses and patients for more than three Few of the nursing staff at St. Thomas's vears. were more universally respected and popular previous page next page