

MISS GRAHAM said that she quite agreed with what Mrs. Fenwick had said, that interest on the part of the Nurses at the bedside lectures greatly improved Nurses' knowledge. She had learnt more at a provincial Hospital than anywhere else, because there the Physician had spoken plainly, so that all could hear; and she thought that the more plainly a Doctor spoke, the better it was for the patient. A good Probationer often has a great deal to do in taking temperatures, when the Clinical Clerk is better able to do so; but it would sometimes happen that he had not time.

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MRS. ROBINSON said she agreed with the ladies who had already spoken, that there should be no limit to the amount of interest a Nurse should take in her patients. The more interested she is, the better Nurse she will make, and the better it will be for the patient. Some time ago a Nurse was often told at the bedside that she must stand back, and was supposed to shut her eyes and ears to anything the Visiting Physician happened to say.

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DR. HEYWOOD SMITH said he was glad to have this opportunity of saying, with regard to the injection of morphia, that it was a kindness to the Nurse when the Doctor did not permit her to have anything to do with hypodermic injections, as the patient then could not worry her. Doctors are often not considerate enough upon this matter. The Nurse is constantly with the patient for days and nights, and could therefore often form an idea from continual watching, and could give an opinion which was often of great value to the Doctor. A Doctor should remember what monotonous work it is for a Nurse, who from week to week has no change in any form. It would be a good thing if a Doctor could always have a few minutes' private conversation with the Nurse each time he pays his visit, and then she could be asked to give her opinion frankly on the patient's progress. She certainly should never do so before the patient. Of course the case would be very different in a Hospital, for there a Nurse should certainly never give an opinion unless specially asked for.

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DR. BEDFORD FENWICK said that there was one very important point that had not been noticed. The great importance of clinical instruction is shown in the fact that that Nurse is the most useful who can best explain the progress and symptoms which have occurred between the Doctor's visits. How would it be possible for her to explain and understand the progress of the patient if she were not taught? He would go further than merely saying that Nurses should be encouraged to listen to the clinical instruction given

in the Wards. He thought it would be well if they could have, in each Nurse Training School, a special clinical class for Nurses only.

MISS SPRING asked what was to be done if District Nurses were not allowed to give hypodermic injections. Several other Members made remarks. Mr. Warrington Haward closed the discussion in a few words, and Dr. Sturges replied to the various speakers. After the customary votes of thanks to the reader of the paper and the Chairman had been proposed, carried by acclamation, and duly acknowledged, the meeting concluded.

THE sketch of H.R.H. Princess Christian, which appears in this issue, is, I am informed by the Editor, by Miss E. G. Cohen, obtained from a copyright cabinet photograph, the use of which has been kindly granted by the well-known photographer, Mr. A. Bassano, 25, Old Bond Street, W.

I AM sincerely glad to see that at last the Midwives' Club is about to make a move in the direction of calling public attention to the necessity which undoubtedly exists for the "Registration of Midwives." A hand-bill with this heading has recently been sent to me which is as follows:— "A measure urgently needed for the safety of English working women, among whom it is calculated that seven cases of child-birth out of ten take place without the presence of any Medical man. A meeting of ladies will shortly be held in London, with the special object of endeavouring to secure Parliamentary interest in this important subject. Persons desiring to be present, or wishing for further information, will kindly communicate with Miss Wilson, 45, Colville Gardens, Bayswater, W. In 1878, Parliament enacted, in the interest of the public, that no one should practice or assume the title of dentist without holding a diploma, which guaranteed his efficiency. In 1883 the same action was taken with regard to veterinary surgeons. But no protection has yet been accorded to English mothers, who are without any assured means of ascertaining that the Midwives (so called) whom they employ, are in any way qualified for the responsible duties they undertake. It is earnestly hoped that some measures may shortly be taken to extend to women in England that protection in child-birth which they can command in every other European country."

I SINCERELY wish the promoters of the scheme every success in their laudable endeavours, though I think they have little or no chance of getting any measure of this kind through Parliament for many years to come. S. G.

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