

taught, and has learnt her work both theoretically and practically. If she has been trained at a large London or Provincial School, she will be able to produce, we will presume, a certificate of her efficiency, and upon the strength of that testimonial will be entered upon the Register. But, as we have said, the smaller Hospitals must be nursed also, and cannot afford to employ only thoroughly Trained—and, therefore, more highly paid—Nurses. Will it be necessary, therefore, on the one hand, for every Hospital to become a Nursing School, and have its staff of lecturers on Anatomy, Physiology, Hygiene, and practical details? Or, on the other hand, will those Nurses who work at Hospitals where such essential courses of instruction are not available, be unable to become Registered at all?

We take it for granted that in future they certainly would not be Registered without producing evidence of theoretical knowledge, as well as of their intimate acquaintance with the practical details of their calling. How, then, is this knowledge to be acquired? We answer advisedly, that only by Lectures and detailed vocal explanations can the elements of Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene be rightly learnt; mere reading is of no avail in these subjects. To our mind, then, the only solution of the problem is shadowed forth in the rules for the curriculum of study of a Medical Student. He must attend for two Winter Sessions, Theoretical and Practical Demonstrations on Anatomy and Physiology, and certain other subjects, delivered by Lecturers in Medical Schools recognised as efficient by the General Medical Council. At the end of that time, he must attend before an Examining Board, produce certificates of his attendance at these Classes, and be tested as to the knowledge he has thereby gained. If he proves his acquaintance with the theoretical part, he is then permitted to begin Ward work, and apply the information he has obtained of the human organism, to see and understand the diseases and accidents to which it is subject, and the various methods which are adopted for their relief or cure. After two years thus occupied, he is permitted to present himself for examination in practical Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics; and if he can prove a sufficient knowledge thereon, he receives his Diploma, or legal qualification to practise as a Doctor. But it is noteworthy that he may attend his Lectures where he pleases, and do his Ward work where he wishes. For example, he may learn his Anatomy at, and pass his Primary Examination from Cambridge, and then may pursue his subsequent work at any Metropolitan or Provincial Hospital. The only essentials are, that every part of the curriculum must be fulfilled, and certificates of its

due performance produced, before examination is permitted.

Now this seems to us to point to the probable solution of the difficulty we are considering. We imagine that the system of primary Nursing education in the future will be formed on such lines as these. It will be decided that no Nurse can efficiently learn or practise her calling unless she has received, as the groundwork of her training, systematic instruction in Elementary Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene. Therefore lectures upon these subjects will be ordained as the first part of each Nurse's education, and probably a primary examination will be instituted in these subjects, which must be passed before practical teaching can be commenced. If the term of training is to be of three years' duration, the first twelve-months might well be devoted to this theoretical tuition, the Probationer, of course, working also in the Wards.

So far, then, as large Hospitals are concerned, the method in which the system would work is plain, for each would organise a School, appoint a Staff of Lecturers, and examine and certify its Probationers. But, as regards the workers at smaller Hospitals, we venture to prophesy that, in every town where Probationers are employed, the necessity for their instruction being once understood, means would quickly be found whereby they could receive it. Courses of lectures would probably be given at one Hospital, to which the Probationers at all the surrounding Institutions could be admitted on payment of a small fee, and thus the necessary certificate of attendance at such lectures would easily be procured. Meanwhile, each Hospital would be engaged in teaching its own pupils the practical details of their work. In theory this seems to supply at once the want, and, as a matter of historical fact, this system of peripatetic education was in vogue for fifty years with Medical men, and was found to work satisfactorily. Of course, organisation and complete harmony between all the Institutions which would share in the advantages of such a co-operative lecturing scheme would be essential to its success. But this, we believe, would surely be secured, and certainly would be to the great and abiding benefit of the Hospitals concerned, in many ulterior matters than the education of their Nurses.

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WE know we must suffer, and that we deserve it, yet we are as much surprised at suffering as if we neither deserved nor required it.—FENELON.

I LIKE science; I like intelligence; I like better still faith, simple faith. I would rather be ignorant, but on the side of God, than full of knowledge, on the side of the world.—MADAME SWETCHINE.

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