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OUR ALBUM.



MISS NINA E. MORLEY.

EDITORIAL.

DISTRICT NURSING.

WE promised last week to devote some consideration to two important matters in relation to District Nursing in large towns—the nature and extent of the training necessary for those who desire to undertake this branch of work, and the method in which these workers could be best organised and assisted in the fulfilment of their duties. In general terms, then, we believe that it may be asserted that in no other department of Nursing is it more absolutely essential that the preliminary training shall have been comprehensive and thorough than in this; in no other department is organisation more necessary, and even at the present day more needed; in no other department is more assistance required, and in no other department at the present time is less forthcoming. If these statements can be substantiated, we are not without hope that some improvement in these matters may be effected, for there is abundant evidence to show that few people, even amongst those who take much active interest in the question, are aware of the real conditions under which District Nursing is, and those under which it should be, carried on.

To prove to-day our first assertion, let us recall the nature of the work which is done by a Nurse who is engaged in attendance upon the sick poor in their own homes. Leaving her, often cheerless, lodging in the early morning, we may imagine the usual cases which she will have to visit. The first is a woman suffering from the effects of blood-poisoning after child-birth, which has left her helpless, weak and suffering. Besides many offices for the mother and child, which can only be efficiently performed by one who has been carefully taught in a Lying-in Hospital, the bed and the room here, as in several of her other cases, will demand the attention to cleanliness and ventilation, which only the Nurse who has had a

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