

more effectually than any words that I can speak. And now to work; the Ward is very heavy; we must all put our shoulders to the wheel. This little Probationer will help me with 26 and 27, and we shall soon be straight. My little smiling Nurse Damian is never beaten;" and as Nurse Damian, out of the fulness of her heart, half opens her lips to speak, Sister holds up a warning finger, and quickly turning from gay to grave, says softly "By and bye." Oh! how many bitter heart-rending words would never be spoken could we but wait till "by and bye."

How happily we worked away for the next hour—no hurry, no scurry; we were all as cheerful and brisk as bees, and somehow I did not feel a bit stupid or out of place. This sweet Sister encouraged me so gently and kindly, impressing upon me the *reason* for all she taught me, so that, apart from the satisfaction of aiding the helpless, doing as she directed became an additional pleasure.

All the arrangements for Nursing in this Ward are very complete; but I learnt later that it is due to the personal generosity and skill of Sister Damian, and that her excellent arrangements are by no means the rule in other Wards; in consequence, it is an acknowledged privilege amongst the Nurses to train under her direction.

All those antediluvian abominations—flock beds—have been banished from her Wards. In their place have been substituted iron bedsteads, steel-spring mattresses, and hair overlays. "My typhoid's" bed is most luxurious, as an Excelsior Bed-Lift (Monkhouse's Patent) has been adjusted to his bedstead, so that he can be gently and firmly raised from the mattress, his back washed, powdered, and kept dry, and the draw-sheets changed. Then he is lowered again on to his large, square water-pillow without any exertion whatever. To see Sister wash this sick man was a treat. After giving him a little milk and brandy, she drew a light, single blanket over him, and bathed him piece-meal, drying him with warm towels with the utmost skill and speed, so as to exhaust him as little as possible. What experience and practice it must require to become a really skilled Nurse! I wonder if I shall ever be one; and yet I am told that had I been sent to Matthew, where there are no Staff Nurses, and Sister comes on duty at nine a.m., when all the Ward work is over, I should have probably been set "to do" a typhoid alone, and a dozen other responsible duties besides. Poor patients! Here in Damian, after the beds are made, and the *patients quite comfortable*, "the first consideration, if it was the last

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