

MISS POOLE, who succeeds Miss KNIGHT, has been working for the last four years in the Adelaide Hospital as Superintendent of Nursing. On Miss KNIGHT's resignation, the offices of Matron and Superintendent were combined, and Miss POOLE was unanimously invited to undertake the double duties, with an Assistant Matron to work under her. Her acceptance of the post has given general satisfaction, especially to the Nursing Staff, among whom she is very popular. Miss POOLE trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and is a Member of the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

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MISS ANNIE BROWN, M.R.B.N.A., has been appointed the first Night Superintendent at the General Hospital, Nottingham. Nottingham is popularly supposed to be a centre of Radicalism, and the unwary are apt to imagine that radicalism and progress go hand in hand. But is it so? It is the year of grace 1892, and the General Hospital, Nottingham, at which there are beds, has for the first time appointed a night-sister and an assistant-matron. However, the fact that the Committee have at last begun to re-organise their Nursing department is such a hopeful sign, that we heartily congratulate them upon their wisdom, and do not doubt that under the careful superintendence of Miss GERTRUDE KNIGHT—the new Matron—Nottingham will soon rank as highly as a Nursing school as its sister-towns of Lincoln and Leicester.

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I HEAR that the prize of £4 won by the deft fingers of Sister MARION, of the London Homœopathic Hospital, in the Chicago Exhibition Dolls' Competition, is to be very wisely expended. The Children's Ward is to benefit by the possession of a play table and the re-furnishing of the Dolls' House. The children took the greatest interest in the dressing of the dolls, and were greatly delighted at their gaining the first prize. I am informed that the miniature B.N.A. medals, which adorned these lovely dollies, were made by A. D. LOWENSTARB & SONS, 110 and 111, Strand. I hear one of the "Queen" artists has sketched the prize dolls, and that they will shortly appear in that paper.

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As the Nursing Uniform Doll Competition has been so eminently satisfactory, I hope the Caps sent in for exhibition at Chicago will also be well up to the mark. The caps worn in the American hospitals are of the most elementary and simple description, and I feel sure our American cousins

will be greatly interested to see the various styles adopted by British Nurses.

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It is very curious how Nurses and Nursing now-a-days come into prominence in even the most unlikely places. In a description of a big fire in the night, given in one of the daily papers recently, I saw the following:—

"There is a District Nurses' Home close by, and presently the Nurses were seen among the crowd, dressed in uniform, and looking quite ready to go 'on duty' even at that uncanny hour. Alas! their services were soon needed, for in one of the houses scorched by the fire lay a little girl of seven, very seriously ill with pneumonia and pericarditis, and a request for a Nurse was sent in not long after the fire had abated. Imagine the anxiety of the watching mother as she sat by her child, listening to the roaring flames, the hissing water, and the cracking window panes, dreading every minute lest she should have to carry the little patient out into the cold night air. Fortunately this was not necessary, for the gallant firemen gained complete control of the flames."

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I AM glad to hear that Lord Sandhurst, Under Secretary of State for War, accompanied by his private secretary, visited the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, last week, and went over the buildings and grounds with the principal medical officer of the district.

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A CORRESPONDENT writes from Melbourne:—"I enclose you a cutting from the *Argus*, of November 10th, 1892. It may interest some of your many readers to know how we Nurses are getting on. The Victorian motto is "Advance Australia," and this is the way the Nursing Profession is advancing out here:—

"In carrying out the policy of retrenchment at the Ballarat District Hospital, the committee had recently to dispense with the services, among others, of three Nurses, although the action was strongly opposed by the medical staff. The change took place, accordingly, a week ago, but does not seem to have resulted satisfactorily, for to-day Dr. Morrison, the resident surgeon, wrote to the President regretting that the dismissal of the Nurses had injuriously affected the Hospital, and asking either that the committee would engage more Nurses or give him instructions explicit enough to absolve him from responsibility in the event of an accident occurring through the incompleteness of the nursing staff. In the communication, Dr. Morrison stated that last night one of the Nurses who had charge of the diphtheria cases fell asleep from sheer exhaustion after being on duty for 41 hours, and that another Nurse who had charge of 21 patients, some of whom were seriously ill, was herself too ill to be kept on duty, and had to-day resigned, stating that her work was now so hard as to be intolerable. In other wards, the Nurses were equally overworked, and this morning, at three o'clock, he had discovered a delirious female patient at the top of the stairs in her night-dress. The letter has not yet been considered by the Committee."

S. G.

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