

indifference to legal and moral obligations, on the part of the London Hospital Committee, which this and other facts displayed. Then there was Nurse SABEL'S story—the poor creature who was sent out to a private case while suffering from a diphtheritic poisoned finger, and who returned in a week to die of the disease. The crass carelessness of the safety and comfort of the public, displayed in thus dispatching a Nurse from a diphtheria case, without any quarantine, to attend upon another outside patient, aroused our condemnation. In like manner, we have strenuously objected to the cruel deception practised upon the sick of the richer classes, for whom the Hospital advertises that it supplies “thoroughly-trained Nurses”; to whom, when they apply for such aid—perhaps when life and death are in the balance—it often sends out its inexperienced pupils; women, these, whom it has persuaded into entering its service by the promise that they shall be taught their calling for two full years in its wards, but whom, after a few months, it sends out to make money for the Institution, and to learn what they can at the expense of the sick in private houses. And, closely connected with this, we have expressed our grave surprise that this Hospital—which is bound by its Charter to publish full and complete accounts of the monies which it receives and expends—should, without any explanation, keep its accounts of this Department secret, so that no one can tell how much it takes by this system of general deception, or how, or where, the money goes; or, in other words, for whose benefit the Charity has been converted into a commercial concern. We are so well aware of the serious scandals now existing at the London Hospital that we are never surprised at fresh revelations from the most unexpected quarters. Sometimes one, sometimes another, of our contemporaries has brought these to light. To-day, our paper contains a circumstantial story to which we would draw the attention of the Press and that of the public at large. The letter from Miss FISHER and the accompanying correspondence tell their own tale; but they have an importance to Nurses which, for various reasons, it is impossible to exaggerate. Hitherto, all the

revelations have come from outside the Hospital; now it appears that there is, at last, some hope that the Nurses inside will summon up courage to acquaint the public with the tyranny under which they groan. Hitherto, the Committee have seemed deaf and careless to all external pressure; now we have reason to believe that there are actually some amongst their number who will not support “injustice and wrong.”

The circumstances of the case, to which we now draw public attention, are extremely significant of the method in which the Nursing department of this Institution is mismanaged. In accordance with our invariable custom, we made full inquiry into the statements made by Miss FISHER, and have established their absolute accuracy.

We have heard even worse instances before, and this is only one example more of the gross injustice with which Nurses are treated at the London Hospital, upon which we have had so often, previously, to comment. And although it would appear that no effect has been produced by Miss FISHER'S appeal to the Committee, we have excellent grounds for asserting that this—which is one of the first appeals ever made against the Matron's decree, by a Nurse—has had such an immense moral effect upon the members of the Committee that there is good reason to believe that the beginning of the end of the London Hospital scandals is approaching; that the rift within the lute has come at last, and that there are, even on the London Hospital Committee, men who dislike the helpless position in which they find themselves placed; and that towards this awakening the courageous action which Miss FISHER has taken, has had no small effect. We advise every Probationer in the London Hospital, who receives the unjust treatment meted out to Miss FISHER, to appeal to the House Committee, and, if they cannot obtain a fair hearing there, to appeal to the Press and the public. Meanwhile, we once more express our conviction that a public inquiry ought to be held into the many glaring scandals connected with the Nursing department of the London Hospital.

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