

And discipline is the essence of training. People connect discipline with the idea of drill, standing at attention—some with *flagellating boys*. A lady who has, perhaps, more experience in training than anyone else, says:—‘It is education, instruction, training—all that in fact goes to the full development of our faculties, moral, physical, and spiritual, not only for this life, but looking on this life as the training-ground for the future and higher life. Then discipline embraces order, method, and, as we gain some knowledge of the laws of nature (“God’s laws”), we not only see order, method, a place for everything, each its own work, but we find no waste of material or force or space; we find, too, no hurry; and we learn to have patience with our circumstances and ourselves; and so, as we go on learning, we become more disciplined, more content to work where we are placed, more anxious to fill our appointed work than to see the result thereof; and so God, no doubt, gives us the required patience and steadfastness to continue in our “blessed drudgery,” which is the discipline He sees best for most of us.’”

* * *

THE following is the list of the members of the Workhouse Nursing Association who were awarded the “Mary Adelaide” Medal at the annual gathering, at the hands of the President Her Royal Highness the Duchess of TECK:—Alice Bullen, Weymouth Union Infirmary; Sarah Elizabeth Copas, St. Austell Union Infirmary; Margaret Ann Clarke, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Emma Cayzer, Stroud Union Infirmary; Emily Cooper, Hartlepool Union Infirmary; Marion Blackstock Elliott, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Susan Jane Goldsmith, Reading Union Infirmary; Emily Gertrude Hibbert, Gressenhall Union Infirmary; Sarah Houston, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Annie A. Hunt, Epsom Union Infirmary; Jane Johnson, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Rachel James, Hartlepool Union Infirmary; Annie Lawrence, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Alice Ledword, St. George’s-in-the-East Infirmary; Jennie Okey, Rotherham Union Infirmary; Catherine O’Neil, Keddington Union Infirmary; Josephine Purcell, Wigton Union Infirmary; Ellen Ryder, Nantwich Union Infirmary; Minnie Granville Smith, Wilton Union Infirmary; Emma Sweeting, Epsom Union Infirmary; Dora Wilkinson, Superintendent of Preston Union Infirmary; Chrissie Stuart Wilkie, Superintendent of Halifax Union Infirmary; Edith Westlake, Rotherham Union Infirmary.

* * *

A CONTEMPORARY which has always (from personal motives we presume) taken an active part in opposing the Registration of Trained Nurses,

is, with surprising inconsistency, equally “burning” in favour of the Registration of the Midwife, and devotes four columns of its limited space to a review of the suggested scheme for the Registration of Midwives propounded by the Midwives Registration Association—a Society, by-the-bye, entirely composed of men, and which, therefore, does not commend itself to our approval in attempting to deal with a “woman question.” The time has now quite arrived when women must take a very active part in dealing with their own concerns, and we are not, therefore, surprised that even the Midwives’ Institute desire to alter the constitution of the proposed Central Board. To quote from the article:—

“As was the case in all previous proposals, everything depends on the constitution of the Central Board. As our right to representation is conceded and the word midwife is to be protected (our two chief demands), we ought perhaps to be contented, but we own we should like to see the lay element directly represented on the Central Board in contradistinction to the purely professional. On the managing boards of medical schools and large institutions such as hospitals, the lay element is always represented, and has proved of such undoubted advantage to all parties that we hope there will be some direct representation of the Privy Council. It will of course be at once said that the General Medical Council, under whose control the Medical Register is placed, consists entirely of medical men, but then it only controls its own profession, whereas the Central Midwives’ Board, consisting entirely of medical men, is to govern and control a body of women whose interests have been said to clash with their own; it is a little as if the spider undertook to legislate for the fly.”

* * *

What is needed if this Board is ever constituted is, that it should be organised on just and liberal lines, and that a limited number of thoroughly trained and educated women should have seats thereon. No lay *male* element can possibly form an opinion of value on purely professional *women’s* work; and they must claim, for the future, the right to protect their own interests.

* * *

WE cull the following happy “par” from the Parish Magazine of St. George the Martyr:—

“On Tuesday, 22nd May, a very interesting ceremony took place at the Homœopathic Hospital, in this Parish, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Senior Sister’s service in the Hospital. We doubt if any ‘Birth-day’ or Fête day of a Hospital Sister was ever more charmingly celebrated. From an early hour there was a stir and excitement all over the Hospital about ‘Sister Olive’s Tea Party’ in the Children’s Ward. On mounting the many flights of stairs about 4 o’clock in the afternoon, and entering ‘Barton Ward,’ we heard on all sides exclamations from visitors, of “How beautiful!” and it *was* beautiful. The children’s cots and cradles were draped in white curtains, flowered with rose-buds, and lined with pale pink; the children themselves dressed in white, with blue or crimson sashes in odd contrast to their bandages and splints. A tiny tea-table stood in the centre of the ward, with Lilliputian couches and chairs, each containing the tiniest and surely the happiest of Hospital

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)