

Old Woman point out as the proper sphere of each. I have myself served as Matron of a well managed and enlightened London Workhouse Infirmary, but found even my position from time to time intolerably false. I can, therefore, keenly appreciate its almost absolute impracticability in those London Infirmarys which exhibit all the faults of the ancient régime in their most glaring colours.

As it is my intention to treat the whole question at greater length, shortly, I will conclude these few remarks.

M. MOLLETT,  
Matron.

Royal South Hants Infirmary,  
Southampton, 11th Dec., 1894.

Miss Squire has commenced a course at Billericay, Essex ; while Miss Kenealy is giving a short series at Chippenham.

Several courses of Drawing-room Lectures are in prospect for the New Year. Mr. Owen Lankester will commence a course on First Aid at 84, Lancaster Gate, on January 9th. Mrs. Goslett will repeat her course of Sanitation Lectures, now in progress at Berners-street, at Mrs. Jopling Rowe's Studio, Logan Place, Earl's Court. Dr. Schofield commences a course on Hygiene at Berners-street ; and Miss de Pledge has undertaken a course of Nursing Lectures in Chelsea. Further particulars of these courses will be announced in the "Nursing Record" in due course.

## The National Health Society.

53, BERNERS STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.



On Saturday next, the 15th inst., the certificates gained by candidates at the recent examination held at Erith on First Aid, will be publicly distributed at the Science and Art Schools, Erith. The certificates will be presented by Mrs. Gascoigne, an influential member of the Committee of the Society, and speeches will be made by various important persons. Miss Lankester and other ladies closely connected with the Society will be present, and the ceremony is likely to prove one of great interest.

With the approach of Christmas, courses of Homely Talks are being brought to a close by many of the Society's teachers, and from all parts of the country applications for Elementary Examinations are being received by the Society.

A very extensive examination is to be held in Surrey on the 15th inst. Five centres will be formed, and candidates from numerous surrounding towns and villages will attend. The subjects under examination will be Nursing, First Aid, Health, and Physiology, and practical and *vivâ voce* work will be expected in addition to written papers on all subjects. The following week will be devoted to examinations in Cookery in the same county, various centres being visited by the Examiner, Miss Harrison.

Elementary Examinations have also been held in Lincoln, on December 10th, 11th and 12th. Miss Morgan has been lecturing in this county for twelve weeks, and very satisfactory reports of her teaching have been received, so that it is expected that the results of these examinations will be highly successful.

The National Health Society's Almanack for 1895, will be published in the course of a few days. Though somewhat altered and revised, the Almanack is very similar to that of last year. In addition to a practical motto for each day of the year, much useful information is contained and many valuable hints given on "Nursing the Sick," "First Aid to the Injured," etc.

Miss Whalley has commenced courses of "Homely Talks on Nursing and First Aid," at Bexley and Bexley Heath. She reports that these classes are very well attended, and that much interest is taken in the work.

## Our Scotch Letter.

THERE was an interesting event in Edinburgh the other day—the inauguration of the first Consumptive Hospital in the town, nay, the first in Scotland I think, and perhaps some of the readers of the NURSING RECORD may like to hear about it. The ceremony was advertised to begin at 4 p.m., and when I arrived about ten minutes before the hour there was not a seat to be had in the large room where the platform was erected, and it was with some difficulty that I got a place near enough to the door to hear the speakers. The gathering both on the platform and in the house was a fairly representative one. A Presbyterian "Very Rev." opened the meeting, and a venerable working Dean of the Episcopal Church closed it ; and between them both law and leisure were represented by various speakers. Lord Stormonth Darling, in declaring the Hospital open, referred to the large number of cases which had received treatment since the work was begun, and the number of applicants for whom there was still no room. He made a most re-assuring statement to the effect that the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary was in no way jealous of the new Hospital, and being one of the managers of the R.E.I. he spoke with authority. It struck me as curious that such a statement should be needed, as I cannot fancy the managers of a general Hospital having any feeling but one of supreme thankfulness for a scheme which would relieve them of even fifteen applications from phthisical patients ! I could not help thinking that if the Managers of the R.E.I. had apologised for not having, years ago, devoted a block of the great Hospital they rule to be specially for diseases of the chest, it would have been more to the point ! Mr. Findlay, speaking later, seemed to recognise the fact that consumption was an infectious disease, which should be isolated for treatment. I wished very much that Dr. Philips, who has been the main spring of the Victoria, had also spoken, and given a medical testimony to the benefit of isolation. I spoke to several medical men and ladies, and their one feeling seemed to be that instead of 15 beds, 50 would be too few.

The movement, which has resulted in the founding of the Victoria Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, started in the Jubilee year, 1887. A rapid increase in the number of patients soon necessitated a move to larger premises, not far from the Royal Infirmary, and these are now to be retained as an out-patient department. Early this year, Craighleith House was obtained on lease, and has now been transformed

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