

of Lonsdale, who was in the chair, announced that the Earl of Lonsdale was willing to provide, at his own expense, two additional Nurses, on condition that the public provided funds for an additional Nurse, so that with the one already engaged, there might be four Nurses at work amongst the sick poor in the town. This very generous proposal was received with much cordiality. Very little difficulty should be found in providing the Nurse needed to induce Lord Lonsdale to carry out his scheme.

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THE Home of Rest for Nurses at Brighton has received a very acceptable present of books from Mrs. Lodge, The Grove, Highgate, which is a delightful addition to the library. The gift included some books of Scott, Thackeray, several "yellow backs" and magazines. Sister Mark has also remembered the Home by sending a delightful present of apples.

\* \* \*

WE regret to hear that the number of resignations of the Nurses at St. Olave's Infirmary continues to increase, the number having now reached fifteen. It is difficult to imagine a more uncomfortable position than that in which the Matron, Miss Evans, now finds herself. After her arduous work in training her staff of Nurses to an efficient point, she now finds herself at the beginning of the winter with crowded wards and a staff either of raw Probationers or strange Nurses trained elsewhere, and perhaps at Infirmarys where methods are very different from that which Miss Evans has instituted at St. Olave's. We understand that the advertisements for Nurses which the Guardians have issued have met with practically no response; and the few applicants for the posts have been indifferently trained and unsatisfactory.

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It is hoped that the Guardians will realize in time what a hardship they are entailing on the sick poor by putting them into the hands of so entirely new a staff. And it is certain, also, that the best type of Nurse will hesitate to accept a position at St. Olave's Infirmary so long as matters are in their present unsatisfactory position.

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We quote with pleasure the following note on the subject, from the *Provincial Medical Journal*, which supports and encourages Miss Evans in her trying position. It is noticeable that none of the London medical papers have dealt with the question. It seems rather useless to preach crusades against the conditions of our Infirmarys, and withhold support from those Matrons who are doing their best to right the wrongs. A little practical sympathy is worth a great deal of theory.

The *Provincial Medical Journal* says:—

"We regret to hear of the differences there have been at St. Olave's Infirmary. Miss Evans was undoubtedly right in pointing out her objection to the Probationer proposed to her by the Guardians. She certainly received but little courtesy for her discharge of her duties. It is quite evident that some of the Guardians are not yet sufficiently educated to fully appreciate the position of the lady Superintendent. We are not by any means in favour of entrusting any official with despotic power, either in the selection or dismissal of Probationers, but we feel convinced that in the interests of any well ordered Institution, the Matron or Superintendent who will have the training of the Probationer ought to be allowed to express an opinion on the suitability of all candidates. The St. Olave's Infirmary has admittedly been well managed."

\* \* \*

A good many Hospital Nurses have been interested in the "White Slavery" correspondence which has been going on in a London newspaper, wherein complaints have been made of "young ladies" doing "menial work," &c., and a great deal of sickly sentiment has been unearthed. "A Father" complains that his daughter does hard work, and gets only £8 her first year. If we knew this father's address we should like to write and suggest that he is very fortunate in getting a good education for his daughter free, plus £8, board, lodging, washing and uniform. Were he to send her to college to qualify as a teacher, he would have to pay heavily; were he even to "apprentice her to the millinery" he would have to give a premium, and "give two or more years."

\* \* \*

There are many Girton and Newnham girls, whose education has cost close on £1,000, who would be glad to earn the salaries of private Nurses and Hospital Nurses who have had theirs for nothing.

\* \* \*

"A Nurse with Grit" writes: "I am so indignant at the 'White Slavery' sensation, and am surfeited with the weak sentimentality that speaks of our 'gentle self-sacrifice,' and dubs us 'ministering angels.' I wish some of these writers would come and see our happy, healthy bands of Nurses in training schools, entering with zest into their work, and taking the rough and the smooth together in a wholesome, English way. We Nurses don't want all this morbid pity."

\* \* \*

"Superintendent" writes:—"The 'White Slavery' correspondence in the *Daily News* may do good, and yet the public gather unjust and

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