

lieving that a Nurse who has not passed through a course of training in a General Hospital cannot be considered as efficiently educated in all the duties which she might, in her after work, be called upon to perform. The same opinion is expressed by the Superintendents of some of our largest and most important Children's Hospitals, and whose judgment upon such a question, therefore, is all the more important.

It is obvious, indeed, that the training in these special Institutions must of necessity fail to yield any experience to their pupils in various and most important branches of Nursing work. The character and number of the accidents, of the operations, and indeed of the surgical work generally, seen in their wards, is greatly restricted as compared with that which is found in a General Hospital, and with which the Nurse will afterwards meet, in private work. The cases of Lung and Heart diseases treated in a Children's Hospital are comparatively few; diseases of the digestive, and of the other abdominal, organs are very rarely seen. There is, of course, no gynecological and no obstetrical experience possible; and it is apparent, on the most superficial examination of the question, that the Nurse who has had neither instruction nor experience in these most important branches of her work, cannot be regarded as efficiently educated to perform the manifold duties with which she may be entrusted. There are, however, other and equally important defects in the possibilities of training which are not so obvious. Amongst the infectious fevers, typhoid is but rarely seen in a Children's Hospital; yet it is perhaps one of the most commonly met with in private Nursing. The method of lifting adult patients is an art which can never be acquired by attendance upon children; and at the same time it is a part of a Nurse's duty which is of the greatest importance to her patient as well as to herself. Or again, the same applications are not as easily employed for adults as for children, and no amount of experience in the case of the latter class of patients will confer similar dexterity in the Nursing of the former.

Finally, there comes the very question upon which such stress is laid by those who advocate sole training in Children's Hospitals—the question of manner. We are of opinion that comparatively few Nurses who have been accustomed to deal only with children

are thereby qualified to manage grown-up people. They are habituated to exercise almost despotic power, and have been much less exercised in the quality of tact. The methods of dealing with sick children and with sick adults, in fact, are so totally diverse that it is comparatively rare to find a Nurse who has been solely accustomed to the former class who proves successful, at first, in her management of the latter.

We have devoted this attention to the subject, and the more earnestly endorse the unanimous opinion of our correspondents that a woman who has been trained only in Children's Hospitals cannot be regarded as a thoroughly-trained Nurse, because it is a question of very considerable importance whether any Nurse should be Registered who has only received training in such an Institution. On the assumption that the Registered Nurse is a thoroughly-trained woman, there will probably be hardly two opinions upon this matter, in the Nursing world; and it will be well, therefore, for those who are looking forward to Registration being made compulsory by an Act of Parliament, to remember that it will certainly, sooner or later, be ordained that a "thorough training" implies training in a General Hospital.

Lectures on Elementary Physiology in relation to Medical Nursing.

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LECTURE III.—DIGESTION AND INDIGESTION.

(Continued from page 207.)

IN TYPHOID FEVER, the chief seat of the disease is at the lower part of the small Intestine, and the commencement of the larger bowel. There are, here, structures which are really lymphatic glands, and are called Peyer's Patches, on the mucous membrane. Through these the active typhoid germ probably finds its way into the system, and, in entering, sets up irritation, inflammation, and then ulceration, of the surface of the intestine. Through these open ulcers, absorption of poisonous matter readily takes place, and so the patient really suffers from a form of blood poisoning. As a general rule, the temperature rises steadily for the first few

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)