

of her life, the purely professional, the ornamental, and the useful. They will see the certificates at which she aims, the proficiency to which she attains, and the medals and decorations she is proud to win. The public loves its soldiers and its Nurses. It has many opportunities of seeing the former in the glories of his tournaments and fêtes. The Nurse in all her serious honesty of work and purpose will soon be in evidence for all who care to know and see."

THE Annual Report of the Middlesex Hospital for 1895 shows the very marked decrease of £371 17s. in the earnings of the Institute Nurses, a decrease which must have fallen hardly on some of the Nurses. So many Nursing Institutes have recently fallen off in their receipts that it is a matter of great congratulation that the Registered Nurses' Society has been kept in such full employment.

THE prize of five shillings has been awarded to Miss L. Menzies Jackson of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children, for the following paragraphs:—

"Children in large numbers are brought to our Hospital suffering from 'rickets.' The immense population of the neighbourhood, the overcrowding that takes place, the poverty and lack of cleanliness; together with impure air, bad ventilation, and absence of other hygienic elements, conduce very largely towards these conditions, but there is no doubt that there are many arguments in favour of its dietetic origin. Deformities of the limbs of the rachitic child are greatly to be prevented by means of splints, which render walking impossible.

The head of 'rickets' is extremely characteristic, the fontanelle remaining open long after the period when it should have been closed, the veins on the forehead prominent, and the head elongated, while the bowed condition of the fibulæ and tibiæ, point out that the disease is advancing with rapid strides. In advanced cases, the muscular and nervous systems are much affected, and death may subsequently result from either convulsions, bronchitis, or broncho-pneumonia, bronchitis being accounted for by the softening and distortion of the ribs and chest.

The association of diarrhœa with rickets is also frequent and important. The treatment of a rachitic child varies according to its age and conditions, but in all cases, milk forms the staple diet, augmented with beef-juice and gravy; and the administration of indigestible and starchy food is entirely discontinued. For older children, a little custard pudding, a lightly-cooked egg, pounded meat,

and well-cooked green vegetables may be ordered; while fresh air and healthier surroundings do their share towards the advancement of a happier state."

LAST week there was a very interesting display at Aldershot of Ambulance methods, when the Duke and Duchess of Connaught presented certificates in First Aid and Nursing to seventy-two candidates. Two tents were fitted up as Hospital wards, and several ladies, *attired as Nurses*, treated the imaginary cases that were submitted to them. Now there is no objection to ladies wearing fancy dress at military tournaments and fêtes, but everyone must strongly deprecate a lay person figuring in professional guise while doing professional work. These ladies were not trained Nurses, and they had no right to wear a dress which can only be earned by long and laborious service. We have frequently deprecated the tendency of the St. John's Ambulance students to regard themselves as Nurses. But few of them have gone so far as to "dress up" in uniform. We wonder what the Duke of Connaught would have said had one of the men students—not being in the army—appeared in the uniform of a Field-Marshal or General! He would certainly have been indignant, and would probably have regretted that the offender could not be court-martialled. We consider it just as great an offence for these Aldershot ladies to have travestied the honourable garb of a hard-working profession.

At the Annual Meeting of the Salisbury Institution for Trained Nurses, the Chairman, Mr. A. Buckley, who is connected with the Salisbury Infirmary, expressed his sincere regret that the Nurses of the Institution receive only one year's training; and he suggested that the period should be raised to two years. It seems such an anachronism that one year in a Hospital is sufficient warranty for a Private Nurse, that we are glad Mr. Buckley has once more called attention to the matter. But we would urge him to press for *three years*, as a less training than this cannot produce a thoroughly efficient Nurse.

A LADY from Hull writes us as follows:—

"In reading 'Nursing Echoes,' I was struck by the remarks by 'One of the Candidates for the Matronship of Brook Fever Hospital.' She must be labouring under a false impression. Hull Sanatorium is an infectious Hospital, and therefore 'in the special line of work great improvements have been made,' and good work has been done there during the last four years. It is *false* and unfair to imply

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