

Male Nursing in America.

A FEW years ago when it was found advisable to organise a Training School on the best lines in America, an English Superintendent Nurse was sought for and obtained, the late lamented Alice Fisher having been one of the pioneer Superintendents at Philadelphia.

A few years pass, and we find the organisation of Training Schools for Nurses in America has improved with such rapidity, that there is little doubt that we have already much to learn from these bright and progressive people.

The Royal British Nurses' Association, has now begun to register male Nurses, but we are not aware of any well-organised school in connection with a leading General Hospital, in this country, where men may receive a thorough knowledge of the theory and practice of Nursing.

The following information for applicants for men desiring to become Orderlies of the Male Training School at the City Hospital at Blackwell's Island, New York, which is under the personal superintendence of Miss Louise Darche, is of interest.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS.

The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction having established a Training School, in connection with the male wards of the City Hospital, are prepared to offer an eighteen months' course of training to men desirous of becoming Attendants of the sick.

Those wishing to enter the School must apply by letter or in person (preferably the latter), to the Superintendent of the School.

Requirements:— Age, between twenty and thirty years, a good common school education, moral character, sound health, a willingness to learn and to work.

Eligible candidates will be received for three months on probation, in the order of acceptance, whenever vacancies occur. If, at the end of this period they do not give satisfaction, their term of service will be considered ended. Should they be accepted at the end of this time, it will be included within the eighteen months' course. Ten dollars per month is allowed during the probation period.

The Superintendent will have the power to decide as to the fitness of the men for the work, and as to the propriety of retaining or dismissing them. While in the School, they will be under the combined authority of the Warden of the Hospital and the Superintendent of the School, and will reside in the Hospital, performing such duties as may be assigned to them in the various wards. Prompt obedience to the rules and regulations governing the School will be at all times required. The students are required to provide themselves with, and to wear while on duty, the uniform of the School. This consists of washable white duck coats and white aprons; and the allow-

ance should not be less than three coats and six aprons. The coats may be purchased at the end of the first month, but the aprons should be provided at the start.

The eighteen months' course will be divided into three periods of six months each, and the remuneration allowed will be ten dollars per month for the first six months; twelve dollars per month for the second six months; fifteen dollars per month for the third six months. Board and washing will be provided during the whole period of training. Three weeks' vacation will be allowed during the eighteen months' course.

The students of the school will be termed orderlies or ward attendants, and will be on duty from 6.40 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., with additional time off, when Hospital duties permit, for lessons and study. One day off duty every two weeks will be granted, and when possible, every third Sunday.

The course of training:

(1) The dressing of blisters, burns, sores and wounds; the preparation and application of fomentations, poultices and surgical dressings.

(2) Application of leeches and subsequent treatment.

(3) Administration of enemata and use of catheter.

(4) The best method of friction to the body and extremities.

(5) Management of helpless patients; moving, changing, giving baths in bed, preventing bed sores and managing position.

(6) Bandaging, making bandages and rollers, and lining splints.

(7) Making beds and changing sheets, while the patient is in bed.

(8) The preparing, cooking and serving of delicacies for the sick; to understand the art of ventilation, without chilling the patient, both in private houses and Hospital wards.

Instruction is also given in preparing reports for the physician as to the state of the secretions, expectorations, pulse, temperature of the body, skin, appetite, intelligence (as to delirium or stupor), breathing, sleeping, condition of wounds, eruptions, effect of diet, stimulants or medicines, and to learn the management of convalescents.

Weekly class instruction by the Supervising Nurse, and lectures from time to time, by the visiting physicians and surgeons of the Hospital will be given, and will include anatomy, physiology, hygiene, theory and practice of Nursing, diseases, surgery, materia medica, &c.

At the expiration of eighteen months a certificate will be given to those men who have creditably passed the examinations, testifying to their ability and good character, signed by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, the President and Secretary of the Medical Board, the Warden of the Hospital and the Superintendent of the School.

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