

### A Royal Reception.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has graciously signified her intention of receiving the Nurses attached to Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, upon her return to Windsor. It can therefore easily be imagined that the "Queen's Nurses" are looking forward to this event with keen delight. We understand that the Nurses are to wear outdoor uniform.

### Appointments.

MRS. ALICE M. F. HEPPEL has been appointed Matron of St. Mark's Hospital for Fistula, City Road. Mrs. Hepper was trained and certificated at the West London Hospital from 1890 to 1893; has worked at the Cumberland Infirmary, was Night Superintendent at the Wolverhampton Hospital, and for the last two years has held the position of Assistant Matron to the Parkwood Convalescent Hospital, at Swanley. Mrs. Hepper is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and a Registered Nurse.

Miss Agnes Lumsden has been selected to fill the position of Matron to the Liverpool Convalescent Institution at Woolton. Miss Lumsden was trained at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary, where she was promoted to the position of Assistant Lady Superintendent, and has therefore had excellent experience, which will qualify her for further responsibility.

It is becoming more and more general for Hospital Committees to select women as Matrons who have gained experience in the management of Nurses and domestic management, in the position of Assistant Matron.

### Hospital Sunday Fund.

A SUM of £10,000 has been forwarded to the Mansion House on behalf of the Hospital Sunday Fund. The following were among the principal amounts received, namely:— St. Michael's, Chester-square (per Rev. Canon Fleming) — being a record collection — £1,477 18s. 6d.; St. Paul's Cathedral, £249 os. 6d.; Holy Trinity, Tulse Hill, £156 13s. 9d.; St. Anne's, Soho, £74 5s. 4d.; Christ Church and St. Andrew's, Hornsey, £74 os. 7d.; Brixton Congregational Church, £58 11s. 9d.; St. Andrew's Church, Leytonstone, £46 14s. 11d.; St. Stephen's, Westminster, £45; Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, £1,257 16s. 7d.; St. James's, West Hampstead, £320 3s. 1d.; St. Nicholas, Chislehurst (including £100 from Mr. Richard Foster), £335 11s.; St. Michael, Paddington, £167 16s. 8d.; St. Andrew, Wells Street, £140 16s. 9d.

### The Training School.\*

BY MISS ISLA STEWART.

To say that a woman must be adequately trained before she can be considered fit to have the responsible charge of the sick sounds like a platitude, but it is by no means a truth recognised or accepted by the general public, who, with the editor of a certain Nursing paper I read lately, think that Nurses are born, not made. Many women, I take it, are born with such qualities that, by careful training, they can be made very fair Nurses. A few have the necessary qualities in such excellence that training makes them really good Nurses, and many are born so deficient in those essential qualities that no amount of training, however good, will make them Nurses at all. Women, like the poor, we have always with us, but to make the Nurse out of the raw material we want a Training School—a systematic method of training, and a minimum standard of excellence. Of the two first we have many examples—good, bad, and indifferent; of the latter, we have as yet no trace. Some of us had once some hope that, by associating ourselves together, and with the members of the medical profession, we might get such a recognised standard; but, alas! alas! seven years have passed, and we seem at least no nearer to it than we were then.

At present the Nurses who are employed by the public, who are treated on a uniform plane as Nurses, and who are paid the same amount of money in fees, range from the Probationer of three months to the fully-qualified Nurse who has had three years' careful training—who has been during that time carefully taught, and has been subjected to *two or more* severe and searching examinations to prove that she has understood intelligently what she has been taught, that she has carefully attended to what she has seen, and that she has profited by the experience she has gained in the wards. These Nurses, ranging, as I have said, from the unqualified and the inefficient to the fully-trained experienced Nurse, are employed impartially by many members of the medical profession and by laymen, and the faults and follies they commit are laid heavily at the door of their profession, to its discredit and great harm. When will Nurses rouse themselves to this great danger, and sweep from their ranks those dangerous, half-trained people who at present are eating their bread and reducing their earnings, and who in return are discrediting the profession of Nursing that it is in danger of becoming a bye-word and a gibe?

When a woman first thinks of becoming a Nurse her first difficulty is the choice of a

\* Being a paper read at the Nursing Conference on Wednesday, June 3rd, 1896.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)