

make it obligatory for every Nurse to produce satisfactory evidence of training in monthly nursing as a necessary qualification for Registration, and I would afford facilities for a Post-Graduate course of Midwifery on the condition that the recipients of such training bound themselves to the Hospital for a future term of service, the training ground to be in (1) wards specially set apart for lying-in cases (2) in a district within a given radius of the Hospitals, or in the wards of a lying-in Hospital or Infirmary (where the Lady Superintendent is a trained Nurse), working in co-operation with the Hospital.

With a previous course of three months' monthly nursing, I think that three months' training in Midwifery, always under supervision, and a further three months' experience when the Nurse-Midwife, after passing a satisfactory examination, might attend cases on her own responsibility, still remaining in touch with the School, and giving a daily report to the head of the Midwifery department, should constitute an efficient training. When such training is the rule and not the exception, when our trained Nurses aspire to be skilled Midwives, and when medical men and women turn not to a woman with a few months' special training, but as a matter of course to the Register of Trained Nurses for their Nurses for lying-in cases, then and then only will the evolution of the Midwife be complete. It is a satisfactory and noteworthy sign of the feeling of the present day on the subject, that Queen Charlotte's Hospital a short time since, in advertising for a Midwife for its in-patients and for a ward Sister, required of candidates for both appointments that they should be trained Nurses.

I leave with you for consideration the following suggestions.—That no Nurse can be considered efficiently trained who has had no experience of obstetric work. That the present proportion of beds in our general Hospitals allotted to obstetric cases does not admit of this training being given. That it can conveniently be obtained in lying-in wards. That Nurses are entitled to a course of training in Monthly Nursing during a three years' curriculum, and that it is unfair that they should have to obtain this training at their own expense at a Special Hospital, and that the expense involved in such training often makes it an impossibility for a Nurse to obtain it, however much she may desire it.

That it is most desirable that the education of Nurses in Monthly Nursing and Midwifery should rest with the heads of the Training Schools of our General Hospitals rather than in the hands of those who are, except in these special branches, for the most part untrained.

The Ethics and Etiquette of Nursing.

THE progressive movement in the American Nursing world has culminated in what may perhaps be regarded as the most advanced measure yet taken—the drawing up and adoption by the Alumnae Association of Nurses of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, of the following Ethics of Nursing at their Annual Meeting held on June 4th, 1896.

Our readers, we feel sure, will be glad to note the high moral tone of this code of Ethics, which must tend to add much to the honour and dignity of the Nursing profession in the United States. And it also goes to prove that the highest standard of training for Nurses is accompanied by a greater standard of loyalty towards the medical profession, and the more recognised is the axiom that doctors and Nurses are fellow-workers, whose best interests are served by upholding the dignity of their respective professions. There has been of late a somewhat determined action on the part of the Editor of a Nurses' journal to attempt to undermine the faith of the medical profession in the loyalty of the highly-trained Nurse. The adoption by a body of Nurses from one of the very best Training Schools in the world of the following Ethics and Etiquette of Nursing is, perhaps, the most eloquent refutation that has yet been offered to the calumny that thoroughly-trained Nurses are not content with a loyal obedience to medical instructions.

The topics selected for the consideration of the Alumnae are as follows :

- (1) The duty of the Nurse to the physician.
- (2) The duty of the Nurse to the patient.
- (3) The duty of the Nurse to her School.
- (4) The duty of Nurses to each other.
- (5) The duty of the Nurse to the public.
- (6) The duty of the physician to the Nurse.
- (7) The duty of the public to the Nurse.

ARTICLE I.

The Duty of the Nurse to the Physician.

Sec. 1.—A Nurse should strictly carry out the orders of the physician under whom she is working.

Sec. 2.—She should never discuss or criticise a physician with her patient or with the patient's friends. She should never express to them a preference for the services of any physician.

Sec. 3.—A Nurse should always accord to a physician the proper amount of respect and consideration due to his higher professional position.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)