Appointments.

The Municipal Council of Shanghai have arranged to engage three lady Nurses, their services being much needed by the European residents. The Council guarantees first-class passages out, a three to five years' engagement, and salaries of £100 a year each to the two junior Nurses, and £150 to the head Nurse. The lady selected as head Nurse is Miss Campbell, who for some time past has been Assistant Matron at the Lewisham Infirmary, and who was trained at Charing Cross Hospital. She also has held the position of Sister at the Royal South Hants Infirmary, where Miss Low, who accompanies her, was Staff Nurse. Miss King, the last of the trio, was trained at King's College Hospital. A very pretty and becoming uniform has been devised, and the extremes of temperature to which Shanghai is subject have been duly considered.

Two new Sisters have been appointed at the Royal South Hants Infirmary, Southampton. Miss Kitching, who was trained at the London Hospital, and who has held the position of Sister at the New Hospital for Women, has been selected for the Female Surgical Ward; and Miss Cæsar, who was trained at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, has been ap-

pointed to the Children's Ward.

"Bobadil."

AT last the verbose and most undignified correspondence headed "The General Medical Council; Critics and Candidates," which has been raging for some weeks between Mr. Brudenell Carter and Mr. Victor Horsley in the Lancet, has been brought to a close by the following editorial remark, "This correspondence must now cease. We cannot but regret that many of the letters have contained expressions of such a bitterly personal nature. Neither the cause of medical reform nor the elucidation of the Medical Acts is furthered by accusations of mendacity and other crimes." In this correspondence, Mr. Brudenell Carter has been accused by Mr. Victor Horsley of "(r) having grossly insulted the whole body of general practitioners; (2) having, by his own admission, deliberately misrepresented the Medical Acts; (3) having encouraged quackery; (4) having so misrepresented his opponent's statements at Carlisle as practically to have committed a literary forgery; and, above all, (5) having opposed constitutional reforms."

Mr. Horsley continues:—"On all these accounts Mr. Carter has been convicted on documentary evidence furnished by Dr. Welsford and myself in our letters to your columns of the last six weeks. Instead of expressing regret for his errors, or trying to explain how he had been led to commit them, he pursues the course of ignoring both his offences and their demonstration. I can, therefore, only earnestly hope that your readers will refer to our preceding letters on this subject; if they do, then I know they will realise how this would-be fighting Bobadil has, with a contemptible lack of moral courage, silently abandoned one position after another."

To which Mr. Carter makes a long and involved reply (which does not appear to us to refute Mr. Horsley's accusations), ending in the following characteristic manner:—" And now only one word more. The farrago of rubbish and falsehood, the meanness and malignancy of which I have, I think, sufficiently exposed—is connected together by coarse personalities and vulgar abuse, such as are no longer tolerated in any decent society. I do not think it would be consistent either with my own dignity or with my professional position, to continue a controversy which my opponent conducts in such a manner."

which my opponent conducts in such a manner."

And this "high-falutin" actually emanates from Mr. Brudenell Carter, Vice-president of the Royal British Nurses' Association, who certainly did not consider it beneath his professional dignity to make a malicious personal attack upon a woman member of the Association, in its professedly official organ. Her reply was subserviently submitted to him, and he evidently did not insist that her defence must be given equal publicity to that afforded to his attack. Because her reply was suppressed; she has thus been prevented from defending herself. "A would be fighting Bobadil" indeed! It is probable, however, that the verdict by a jury of "honest men and true" recorded in the case of Breay v. Browne, in the City of London Court last Monday, will have one very useful result. We are informed that it is proposed by the officials that Mr. Brudenell Carter and Dr. Bezly Thorne should be again elected upon the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association. Considering that it was Dr. Thorne who wrote the threatening letter to Miss Barlow, which is so well known in the Nursing world, and that the Matrons on the Executive Committee were compelled to present a written protest against the conduct of Mr. Brudenell Carter at meetings of the Committee, we can only express our conviction that, if such an ill-advised proposition be made, it will precipitate proceedings which would be highly beneficial to the Association. previous page next page