

moral effect upon the man, and certainly the experience will be of value to her when such duties devolve upon her in private work. In some Hospitals this may never be necessary; there are plenty of assistant-surgeons or a trained dresser to do this work; but where it is a question of Nurse or orderly, I think the Nurse is the proper one to do it.

In regard to the preparation of patients for operations and the operating-room service, there may be much room for discussion, especially where students are admitted. I do not know what the practice is in most Hospitals. My rule has been to have the orderly give all preliminary treatment—shaving, scrubbing, &c.—but final preparations of the field of operation must be performed by the Nurses, unless it be upon the genital organs or perineum.

The same rule holds good in the operation-room, the Nurses remaining unless the operation is one directly upon these organs. Is it wise to allow our Nurses to give a full massage or rubbing to male patients? In some cases it seems necessary, where the patient is recovering from the effects of a severe illness; but when convalescence is once established such treatment is best given by a male attendant.

In caring for the very sick we must, as far as possible, forget both sex and self. In their weakness men appeal to us as little children, and the motherliness inherent in every true woman's nature responds to their cry for help, and we give them what they need in our relation of patient and Nurse.

The question seems to resolve itself into one of sacrifice—a sacrifice of the best good of patient or the feelings of the Nurse, and I am sure that every woman of good principle who is taking her training will hesitate at no service necessary for the welfare of the patient. To the young woman who has left her refined home, where she has been protected all her life, and who for the first time comes in contact with the work and requirements of Hospital life, the shock is a severe one. But if she has in her the material out of which good Nurses are made, she soon recovers her equilibrium, accepts the situation, and by the time she is ready to don her cap is always ready to consider the best good of her patient before her own personal feelings, and is willing to acknowledge that some of her preconceived ideas of modesty must yield to the necessities of the invalid. Forgive me if I have exceeded the limit of my subject in referring so often to a graduate's work; as training is only preliminary in most cases to such work it has seemed necessary, and could not be avoided. Much more might be said on this subject, but I do not wish to take up too much time, and I trust that I have said enough

to call forth a discussion that will be a help to us in dealing with this subject.

When we look back and remember how few years it is since it was considered possible for women of intelligence and refinement to enter the ranks of Nurses, and think how much has been accomplished in refining the influence surrounding the Hospital wants and the operating-room, it must encourage us to believe that the next few years will bring about results we scarcely dare to hope for at present. Can any of us think that the women who have been the means of bringing about this great change have lost dignity and modesty during their training, or do we find that our pupils become coarse, vulgar, or loud, unsympathetic or indifferent to suffering? Does it not develop all the best qualities in a woman if she is the right kind? Think of what the operation-room was before women entered it to purify its moral atmosphere. Have our Nurses been contaminated by that since? On the other hand the surgeons of to-day have cause to bless us for what our presence has done for them, and the young men they are training to take their places in the future. They ask that we take charge of all operations. Let us demand that they exercise care, so that there shall be no unnecessary exposure, whether the patients be men or women.

It is the duty of every woman in charge of a School to be often present in the operating room, and when there is undue exposure to speak of it. This can be done in such a manner as to call forth thanks and not criticism.

The Chalet "Pegli" at Genoa.

It may be useful to our readers to know of a really comfortable Home for Invalids in the South. The Chalet "Pegli" near Genoa, has been opened for the reception of paying guests, by two English ladies, one of whom has two Sisters who have been trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, one of whom will reside at the Chalet during the coming winter, and will therefore be able to give skilled care to those guests who require it. The Chalet is surrounded by large gardens, in which is situated an English church, and the terms are moderate, ranging from £2 2s. a week. Meals are arranged on the foreign plan—first *déjeuner*, 8.30, tea, coffee, rolls, and butter served in the bedrooms; second *déjeuner*, 11.30; afternoon tea, 4.30; and dinner at 7 p.m. Nurses who need a *pied à terre* in Italy for themselves or patients, could not do better than arrange to spend part of the time at this lovely spot.

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