

small hospital in Bolsover Street, and later of the Great Northern Hospital.

It was in 1865, however, that Miss Jones accepted the post of lady superintendent of the Liverpool Workhouse Hospital, and so undertook the work of workhouse infirmary reform with which her name will ever be associated.

She had the promise of twelve Nightingale nurses, and seven probationers, to help her in this important work; but she was unable to take them with her at first, as the necessary arrangements for their reception could not be made. They arrived on the 16th of May, 1865, and then the work began in earnest. The amount of good done by Miss Jones during nearly three years of office is impossible to estimate. The nursing of the great infirmary, in which there were 1,300 beds, was organised, and skilled and efficient nursing, for the first time in the annals of a workhouse, superseded that of pauper inmates. Discipline was enforced, and order evolved out of chaos. The pauper women, who were brought into the hospital to be trained under the nurses, constituted the greatest difficulty. After repeated trials it was found to be quite impossible to train them into satisfactory nurses, and it was found necessary to give up the attempt.

On December 27th, 1867, Miss Jones was

able to write of Christmas Day: "You may think how thankful I was when the day was over without any fighting, and little drunkenness. . . . The men, and their scourers, behaved admirably; one female patient, and some scourers on that side, were rather the worse for the liberal ale allowance, which is a great temptation; but for 1,277 patients, 130 scourers, 60 nurses, 20 carriers—a total of 1,487

—to give no trouble, was a great triumph." In the early part of the next year it became evident that Miss Jones was breaking down; the work she had undertaken had been accomplished, but at the expense of how much health, and physical strength, only women who have gone through a like experience can understand.

On February 6th, Miss Jones was found to be suffering from typhus, and on February 18th she died. To some it may seem that her death at the early age of 36 was the

unnecessary sacrifice of a valuable life, but it was in reality far otherwise. She had finished the work which she had made peculiarly her own. She had proved the possibility, and the advisability, of skilled nursing for workhouse infirmaries, and this work, initiated by her under circumstances of exceptional difficulty, has been carried on by other hands, so that at the present time, though much still remains to be done, the condition of nursing



MISS AGNES JONES.

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