

The Plague in Bombay.

WE are asked to state that the India Office is now selecting nurses for temporary plague work in India. The Indian Government has telegraphed to the Secretary of State for eight more medical men, two more medical women, and twenty-five nurses. Should the plague extend this number will be further increased. It is hoped that twenty-five nurses may leave London for Bombay, *via* Marseilles, on Wednesday next.

The following appointments have been already made:—

Miss J. EVANS. Trained for three years at Withington Union Hospital.

Miss JANE SNOWDEN, Registered Nurses' Society. Trained at Manchester Royal Infirmary and Sheffield Union Infirmary. Formerly Night Superintendent at St. Mary Abbott's Infirmary.

Miss ELLEN SMITH. Trained for four years at the West London Hospital.

Miss A. RICHARDSON. Trained for two years at University College Hospital, London, and three years at St. George's Hospital, Bombay.

Miss J. GRIEVESON. Trained for five years at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Only candidates possessing full qualifications will be accepted. Candidates must also pass the medical examination.

Terms of appointment and other information will be sent to any qualified person who applies to the Revenue Secretary, India Office, Whitehall, S.W.

The number of persons attacked with plague has during the last fortnight considerably increased in the city of Bombay, and it is probable that more nurses will be required. We feel sure that the need has only to be known to meet with a response from the nursing profession.

The Royal Red Cross.

MISS SUSAN CATOR, who is now living in St. Ethelbert's Almshouses, Hereford, has been awarded the order of the Royal Red Cross by the Queen for her services in tending the sick and wounded in the Crimean War. Miss Cator worked at Scutari. It is an interesting fact that it fell to her lot to nurse Sir Evelyn Wood during the Crimean War, and that it is at his hands that she will now receive the Royal Red Cross.

Appointments.

Miss Cook has been appointed Matron of the British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street. Miss Cook was trained at St. Mary's Hospital and at the Hospital for Women, Soho, and has been Sister of Obstetric Wards at St. Mary's since 1895. We wish her all success in her new work.

MISS M. GREENBROUGH SMITH, at present Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Bristol, has been appointed Lady Superintendent at the Blind Asylum in that city. Miss Smith was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she was the gold medallist of her year, and has for the last eight years been Matron of the Bristol Royal Infirmary.

Nursing Politics.

WHO SUPPRESSED THE REGISTERED LETTERS?

MISS ROSINA GRAHAM, Member of the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, informs us that, as she was ill and unable to attend the late Special General Meeting to consider the Bye-Laws, she wrote to her fellow-members, pointing out her objections to the alterations suggested. We presume this also was one of the letters *opened by the officials and withheld from the meeting*. It would be interesting to know by whose direction all these letters (evidently in opposition to the code of Bye-Laws drawn up by the sub-committee composed *entirely* of Hon. Officers) were withheld from the persons to whom they were addressed! We are informed that several of them were registered and were sent "care of the Secretary." It is, therefore, remarkable that they should have been opened and then suppressed.

WHICH brings us to the present extraordinary condition of our Secretarial department. It will be remembered that our late Secretary resigned after a few months' work—having been married in the interim—but, instead of taking the usual course of advertising for a lady to fill the vacancy, Miss Leigh (who we hear was working in the office during the summer, without the official sanction of the Executive Committee) was recommended by Mr. Fardon, Medical Hon. Secretary, as Acting Secretary. He refused, it is stated, to give any information whatever concerning this lady or her qualifications for the responsible position she proposed to fill, although the Royal Charter states, in defining the powers of the Executive Committee, that they "*shall appoint such paid officers and servants and pay them such salaries or other remuneration as they may deem necessary and useful to the Corporation*"!

BUT what are the mandates of a mere Royal Charter in comparison with the Commands of a Mr. Edward Fardon, M.R.C.S., supported by his packed Committee and Council? It would evidently have been regarded as unbounded presumption upon the part of Her Britannic Majesty and the Lords of the Privy Council if they had dared to define the limits of the powers of this would-be Dictator.

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