

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Another Mussulman family for eggs, at 1 anna daily, and a little for clothes ... | 6 8  |
| In Gundiali Hospital in October and November—                                    |      |
| Two Mussulmen ... ..   | 3 0  |
| Old man, "Annan," who lost all his family in plague ... ..                       | 3 0  |
| Meghwars (nine people)—lowest class and poorest, "Serfs of the Soil" ... ..      | 8 0  |
| Kodaya Hospital—   |      |
| To six Meghwars (patients) ... ..  | 6 0  |
| A "Sadu," Jashingar and Houssein ... ..  | 3 0  |
| Moondra Hospital—  |      |
| Meghwars (three) ... ..  | 3 0  |
| January, 1898—   |      |
| Coppeia Meghwars ... ..  | 3 0  |
| Tharkore of Luny ... ..  | 1 0  |
| Old blind Koomerbai ... ..   | 2 0  |
| In October, sent to Bombay to Miss Robinson for sick poor patients ... ..        | 30 0 |
| To Miss Hale for same purpose ... ..   | 20 0 |

Rs. 98 0

Miss Hale's was thus given—

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Bed, bedding, etc., burnt, of seven Meghwars, to whom was given ... .. | 9 0 |
| Ryan Meghwars ... ..   | 3 0 |
| Poor Mahommedans, Koday... ..  | 7 0 |
| Rhamabai of Merow ... ..   | 1 0 |

Rs. 20 0

### Sick and Obstetric Nurses' Bill.

WE have received a copy of the Sick and Obstetric Nurses' Bill, drafted by Dr. McCook Weir, of East Sheen, who has been good enough to forward it to us. We have pleasure in publishing that part of it which relates to "sick nurses." As it is evident that legislation for nurses cannot be very long delayed, all individual efforts and suggestions on this important subject are helpful, and merit careful consideration. The Bill before us has, we are sure, been drafted with a real regard for the interests of the public, and is valuable as showing the growing opinion that the public have the right to be protected from incompetent and unscrupulous women who pose as trained nurses. Its weak point, we think, lies in the fact that Dr. McCook Weir has not, we imagine, come into intimate contact with thoroughly trained nurses themselves, and that, consequently, the Bill he proposes, with the best of intentions, legislates for them instead of voicing the needs and aspirations of the nursing profession. This is an almost inevitable result in any legislation for nurses in which the persons principally concerned are not consulted, and one which nurses will do well to mark. Legislation can only, in our opinion, be satisfactorily enacted if the views of the nurses themselves, through the leaders of the nursing profession, are sought and considered. We do not, however, imagine that, in its present form, Dr. Weir's Bill will become law. Below is the Bill:—

"9. Sick nurses shall in all cases act independently of and in no case undertake the duties of obstetric nurses, as laid down in the schedule hereto, but shall be otherwise subject to the same supervision and control as obstetric nurses.

Schedule A. Clause 2.

For the adoption of this Act it will suffice to give notice for three weeks in the columns of the local press, and written notice to the Central Authority by the Clerk or Secretary to the Authorities named in this clause.

Schedule B. Clause 3.

The prosecuting Authority in this shall be the same as in clause 7, and the Court, the Police Court, or Petty Sessional Court of the district in which the offence was committed.

Schedule C. Clause 4.

All sick nurses under this Act must have at least six months' training in medical and surgical nursing in a recognized Metropolitan or Provincial General Hospital, and must hold a certificate from the teaching staff setting forth that the person named therein is competent to undertake the nursing of medical and surgical cases according to modern methods, and that she has been examined both theoretically by written papers as well as practically at the bedside, not only in the subjects named, but also in cooking for and feeding the sick, according to instructions laid down in that behalf by her examiners. Nurses with three years', eighteen months', and six months' training respectively shall be certified after examination as *first*, *second*, and *third* grade, and the position and pay of each grade shall be according to the following scale:—

First grade nurses, salary £100 per annum, to wear full dark blue costume, as worn by Jubilee nurses.

Second grade nurses, salary £80 per annum, to wear grey costume.

Third grade nurses, salary £60 per annum, to wear plain dress, with nurses' head-dress.

Sick nurses must not accept fees, gratuities, or extra remuneration from any patient, or relation, or friend, or husband of the same. Their outfit to be determined and supplied by the administrative Authority under this Act.

An obstetric nurse under this Act must have at least three months' training in a recognized Metropolitan or Provincial Lying-in Hospital, and be examined theoretically by written papers and practically at the bedside, and must show herself competent to act in cases of emergency, such as in sudden labour, alarming hæmorrhage, and threatened death of the mother or child, until the doctor engaged to attend arrives, or, in the event of his absence, until the arrival of a properly qualified and registered substitute. In addition to a practical knowledge of modern antiseptic midwifery, and the general management of lying-in

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)