

now a candidate from this school is to be found applying for nearly every vacant position of importance in the Nursing profession, and the nurses have been very successful in their candidature of late. A little bird whispers that the devoted Chairman of the Hospital shows the warmest interest in furthering the professional advancement of the sisters and nurses of the London—and this is as it should be.

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THE fact that a woman has undertaken to prove that she, at least, can subsist for thirty days on nothing but pure water, has some interest for nurses, inasmuch as trained nurses have been engaged, in their professional capacity, to attend Madame Christensen during her public exhibition of abstinence, at the Royal Aquarium. Personally, we have no sympathy with feats of this description, neither does the attendance of trained nurses find favour in our eyes, as it appears to us a distinctly unprofessional proceeding. We can only say that had any private nursing institution with which we are connected been applied to for nurses, that they would not have been supplied. The nurses who are in attendance were originally Nurses Stott, Price, Martin and Wright, but one of them has now been replaced by Nurse Rang, who speaks German, and who will, therefore, be able to converse with her charge. Two of the nurses are in attendance by day, and two by night. They belong to the Clapham Institute.

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WE hear, on good authority, that considerable indignation was expressed in Aldershot at the way in which twenty-one men, who were injured or incapacitated during the recent manœuvres, were treated. An eye-witness states that they were sent up to Aldershot, and there lay about the platform. This was at four o'clock in the afternoon, the men having left the manœuvres' camp at an early hour, and having been travelling since 6 a.m. No provision had been made either for food or drink for them. The station-master telegraphed to Salisbury for instructions, and meanwhile, the condition of the men excited much comment. One was in such agony that those about him thought he was dying, three were suffering from sun-stroke, and one was delirious. One compassionate lady enquired of one man, who seemed specially exhausted, whether she should get him some brandy, which he declined, but said that he would be most grateful for a cup of tea. This was brought to him, and further, a gallon of tea soon made its appearance, and was distributed to the thirsty men, a kindly act, which, no doubt, drew down many benedictions upon the head of the good Samaritan who provided it. A male passenger brought ice, and arranged temporary ice-bags for the delirious patient. It is scarcely creditable to the authorities, however, that such a public exhibition of official mismanagement should have taken

place, or that it should be left to chance passers-by to provide for the needs of our sick soldiers.

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WE notice, with the deepest regret, that deaths from enteric fever among our brave troops in the Soudan are officially notified, day by day, and published in the daily press. We anticipated an outbreak of enteric fever, and urged at the beginning of the campaign, that adequate nursing arrangements should be made for the troops. It will be remembered that a generous patriot offered to equip, and bear the expense of, a nursing expedition, and that this offer was refused. We think the public, therefore, have the right to ask what nursing these men, who have died of enteric fever, have received. It is well-known that in this disease skilled nursing is everything.

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WE have been much interested in the sketches which have appeared in the *Daily Graphic* of the cars on the Hospital train, by which the wounded in the Soudan have been conveyed from the Atbara to Wady Halfa. Do the orderlies on duty when arranging the ward do so with a pitchfork, we wonder? At all events, more striking evidence of the need of the presence of trained women could scarcely have been afforded. We scarcely think the Medical Department of the Army will be obliged to the British officer from whose photographs these sketches are produced. It might be as well, from an official point of view, if now that the Sirdar has the war correspondents, from all accounts, pretty well in hand, he extended his censorship to the snapshots, and required that these should be submitted for his inspection before being sent home.

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THE *Sun* has lately severely criticised the management of the Maternity Home at Plaistow, and in a reply from Mr. Pepyat Evans, the hon. sec., we find the following statement:—"In 1897, the services of the nurses were given gratuitously in more than 1,000 confinements, and in 2,130 cases of illness (including 149 of diphtheria, 333 of pneumonia and bronchitis, 94 of typhoid fever, and 295 surgical cases), all nursed in the homes of the patients."

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THIS is a most important statement, because the public will want to know if these cases of serious illness were nursed by trained nurses, and if so, where they obtain their experience; because it is a fact that there is no hospital attached to the Maternity Home at Plaistow, and that the maternity experience is gained entirely by attending to poor women in their own homes.

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WE have condemned this system of so-called training on several occasions, because nurses so trained, must gain their experience at the expense of poor lying-in women, who are quite at their

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