

Now that the new term of preparation for the next examination of the London Obstetrical Society will shortly begin, we should advise any nurses who wish to obtain the special training necessary, to apply to the Matron of the Brighton Lying-In Institution, 76, West Street, Brighton, for information concerning the curriculum afforded there, and the terms for the three months' training. Miss E. Cartwright, the Matron, is well known to many of our readers, and many nurses will, we feel sure, be glad to know of a Home in so healthy a town as Brighton, where they can obtain this special training under a thoroughly experienced Matron.

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THE way in which "thoroughly trained male nurses" in this country procure the necessary training has always been an anomaly to us. Recently we have received some striking information on this subject. A male nurse (not trained in England) seeing that a chemist in a local town sent out trained male nurses, under the patronage of a titled patron, made some enquiries, amongst others where the nurses were procured. The answer he received was:—"Well, you see it's this way—my father is a farmer near here. In the summer he has plenty of work for the hands, but in the winter many of them have nothing to do, so we work in together, and in the winter I send them out as male nurses."

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IN another town, still pursuing his enquiries, our informant asked where the male nurses belonging to another institution were trained, and was told, in accents of surprise, "Why, they learn at their cases, of course." There is, evidently, much to be desired in the training of some male nurses in this country.

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COMMENTING on the opinion advanced by Captain Norton, M.P., at the Nursing Section of the International Congress of Women, that a Lady Inspector should be appointed in connection with the Army Nursing Service, who should be responsible that the nursing at the military centres should be kept up to a high standard, the *Nursing World* justly remarks: "In the country of Florence Nightingale such a suggestion has considerable force."

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MISS STANSFELD, an assistant inspector of the Local Government Board, has presented the following report upon the children in the Havil Street, Camberwell, Infirmary to the Board: "The wards in the south block are set apart for children suffering from infectious diseases, who are separated as far as possible, but still in dangerous contact. These wards are dreary, bare

of the most ordinary appliances for nursing the children, and some of them close and ill-ventilated. I found a temporary nurse in charge, who told me she could not remain beyond the current week. The general condition of the children was unsatisfactory. More skilled nursing appeared to me to be necessary, but I feel sure it will be difficult to effect any improvement in this direction until new premises attract a superior class of nurse. More capable nurses are not likely to consent to work in this infirmary, where structural difficulties are great, and they are not provided with the appliances necessary for the successful treatment of the sick. The accommodation afforded by this building was used as well as possible.

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THE remainder of the children were divided among the adult wards. Ward 31, under a male attendant, contains 13 beds, which are set aside for male patients who are not considered fit to be in the general wards. In this ward at the time of my visit were three boys, one of whom was having his dinner in a corner, his table consisting of a heap of bed-clothes, and his plate of pudding on the floor. The ward was untidy, the patients looked uncomfortable, and there were evidences of unskilled and inefficient nursing. More isolation accommodation under the care of an expert male attendant is needed for men of bad character and other special cases. Want of proper premises made it impossible for the medical officer to make any better arrangement. Owing to the disorganized condition of this infirmary, I have found it difficult to obtain the returns, which I append, and I cannot vouch for their accuracy in detail."

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THE above report proves the value of inspection of workhouse infirmaries by a woman, and one, moreover, who has some knowledge of nursing matters as is the case with Miss Stansfeld. Regular inspection of workhouse infirmaries by a nurse-inspector appointed by the Local Government Board, would do much to rectify the irregularities and abuses which exist in many of these institutions, nullifying, to a great extent, the good of the arrangements made at great expense to the rate-payers for the benefit of the sick poor.

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THE Hospital Saturday collections at Stratford-on-Avon benefitted to the extent of £25, from the proceeds taken at a flower stall at the Market Cross, presided over by Miss Cottam, and Miss Moseley, the Matrons of the Hospital and Nursing Home. This method of raising money does not commend itself to us.

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