

observance of strict antisepsis, and one might almost say that in such perfect observance lies the whole secret of success. Space will not allow of any lengthy discussion upon the after-care of otological operations; before concluding, however, I would wish to mention a few points with regard to those on the mastoid. Every mastoid case varies more or less in its after-treatment. The average duration of the wound treatment until cicatrization is complete, varies in the regular course from two to five weeks, and some cases require even longer. Upon the after-care, the successful result of opening the mastoid antrum will depend, and the necessity for the most rigid antisepsis and most stringent supervision cannot be too strongly insisted upon. The time for the first and subsequent dressings will be decided by the surgeon. The nurse's duty is to keep a careful watch for pain and on the temperature. Should she later be entrusted with the dressings, then is her time to show that she is mindful of the necessity for antisepsis.

I trust that the few points which I have endeavoured to draw attention to in this paper may prove of use to the reader. In selecting them I have purposely picked out several which are apparently so simple as to be scarce worthy of discussion, but it is in those very simple manipulations that I have found nurses deficient, an unfortunate fact due mostly, no doubt, to lack of opportunity rather than to neglect of study.

Well Done.

MISS REBECCA NEWMAN and Miss Mary A. Newman are resigning their positions as Sisters at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, after an unusually long term of devoted service in its wards. The former Sister entered Addenbrooke's in 1866, gained a certificate, and has, therefore, been connected with the hospital for 34 years, and the latter was trained at the Winchester Hospital in 1865 and came to Cambridge in 1867. We are glad to learn that both Sisters are to receive a pension of £40 a year in consideration of their faithful services, and we could only wish that the sum had been more. After the comforts provided for ladies holding the positions of Sisters in our well managed general hospitals, where a fair salary, board, separate rooms and service are the usual emoluments, we know that they find life in their old age somewhat hard on £40 to £50 a year. Nevertheless, we offer the Sisters Newman our hearty good wishes for many years of rest, after their long and honourable years of labour.

An Ideal Superintendent.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MISS MONK.

ALWAYS glad of an excuse to visit the Sister Matron of King's College Hospital, it was with pleasure that I wended my way there a short time ago to see something of the improvements which have recently been made. I found Miss Monk, as usual, full of work, but courteous as ever, and ready to explain every detail with regard to the hospital, and to the organization of the nursing department for which King's is justly noted.

It is quite evident that at King's the patients are put first—this fact, and the professional tone and good discipline prevalent among the nursing staff, make the atmosphere of the place delightful. If one seeks for the cause producing this desirable condition, it is evidently to be found in the personality of the Sister Matron. Invested with the authority necessary to the maintenance of her position, Miss Monk holds it with such dignity and capacity that all those who desire to discharge the duties of similar positions will do well to observe her work, and study her methods, for there are few to whom she cannot "give points." First must be mentioned the high place which she claims for the profession of nursing:—"I would," she says in the little booklet which she has written for presentation to each nurse on admission into the Training School, at the end of her trial period, "that the nurses of this Training School should ever remember the honour, dignity and sacredness of their profession, and hold it in such respect that they will never in any way bring discredit upon their uniform. . . . Let them remember that discipline and obedience are the key-note to satisfactory and efficient work in life, for to rule well we must learn how to obey. Let them bear in mind that they must ever be loyal, generous, tender and gentle, yet strong in action and thought, avoiding any remark that would tend to take from the delicacy and refinement of their work. . . . Let them look upon their patients as individuals to be cared for personally, with firmness, but with gentleness; not as cases to be treated medically only. Let them ever recognize that it is characteristic of nursing work either to bring out all that is great, noble, and self-sacrificing, or to tend to deterioration by affording opportunities for selfishness, liberty of action and thought, and frivolous amusement, thereby bringing either credit or discredit upon the School which has trained them, the influence of which they will always carry with them so long as they do work

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