

The New Matron of Guy's.

MISS ESTHER HARRIET YOUNG, the new Matron of Guy's Hospital, is the youngest daughter of the late Mr. George Adam Young, architect, of London, and sister of Mr. Keith Downes Young, the well-known hospital architect.

Miss Young received her education at private schools in Richmond, Surrey, and at Worcester Park. During the short interval of home life which intervened before the commencement of her professional career, she spent part of her time in visiting the poor, and other branches of parochial work, under the Vicar of Richmond, where her family resided. She received her first training at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, where her sister, Miss Mary Anna Young, was for many years the Sister of the principal medical ward, and to her she was indebted for much of her early teaching.

She afterwards went to the London Hospital, but her work there was cut short by a severe attack of diphtheria, caught in attendance on another nurse, and after the necessary rest she was obliged to undertake somewhat lighter work. She spent some time at the Throat Hospital, and afterwards at Gordon House, where she gained valuable experience in private nursing, under Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

In 1891 she returned to Addenbrooke's to fill the post of assistant to her old friend, Miss Cureton, the valued matron of that hospital. During the four years

and a half which followed she assisted in many improvements which were made there in the arrangements for the nursing staff, and her experience in institution management gained there has been of great value to her in London.

Early in 1896 personal and family reasons obliged Miss Young to relinquish her work at Cambridge, and, after a few months' rest, she accepted the appointment of Assistant Matron at Guy's Hospital, which she held

for three years from Jan. 1st, 1897. Before entering on her new duties she spent some time in visiting, at the desire of the Governors, the principal hospitals in London and some of those in the provinces, in order to gather information about the management of the various nursing schools which might be of use in perfecting the improvements then in progress under the excellent Matron of Guy's, Miss Florence Nott-Bower.

The three years during which Miss Young had the happiness of working under Miss Nott-Bower have been eventful years for Guy's, and not least for the nursing staff. Among the reforms which have been carried out

may be mentioned the longer hours off duty, the improved uniform, improved arrangements for meals, especially the midnight meal for the night nurses, and other changes, which have tended to make the nurses' life altogether happier and more healthy.

On the regrettable resignation of Miss Nott-Bower from ill-health, at Christmas last, the Governors, without hesitation, appointed Miss Young to fill the vacant post.

L. E. Y.



MISS ESTHER H. YOUNG.

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