

and power which, by forming themselves into the League, they had taken into their hands. She believed that the power was in good hands, and that the League would grow both in numbers and in unity. The opinion of the League would necessarily be of weight in matters affecting the nursing profession, and she asked the members to form an opinion on matters which affected them. There was, for instance, the question of the legal registration of nurses. She asked the members to inform their minds on that question, and if they came to the conclusion that it was desirable, then they should be prepared to work for it. For herself, she believed more strongly every day that it was necessary.

The business meeting then concluded, and the members moved to the other part of the hall, where the tea tables were most invitingly laid out. The decorations in pink and mauve were charming, and the good things provided were not only pleasant to the eye, but excellent to taste. Iced coffee, dainty sandwiches, strawberries and cream, and many other delicacies, disappeared, and days of auld lang syne, as well as to-day and to-morrow, were discussed. But the pleasantest meetings must come to an end in time, and lingeringly, lovingly, the members took their leave at last of "dear old Bart's," looking forward to their "next merry meeting," and feeling happy in the certainty that a welcome would then await them.

Appointments.

MATRON.

MISS S. M. MASTERS has been appointed Matron of the Hampstead Nursing Association. She was trained for three years at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and has held the position of Matron of Mildenhall Cottage Hospital and district nurse in connection with the North London Nursing Association.

MISS JANET B. BRUCE has held the position of Matron of the Kaisr el Aini Hospital, Cairo, since September of last year, and for two months previously acted as locum tenens in the same capacity.

SISTER.

MISS CLARA STOTT has been appointed Sister at the Infirmary, Havil Street, Camberwell, S.E. She was trained at the Union Infirmary, Birkenhead, where she was promoted to the position of Sister. For the past four months she has held the position of nurse at the Union Infirmary, Richmond.

Poor Lunatics need Protection.

ATTENTION having been called by Lord Russell of Killowen, in the Lords, to the St. Pancras scandal, the Lord Chancellor admitted the gravity of the charges which had been made against the parish officials, and indicated his belief that the practice of receiving bribes in connection with the certification of lunatics was more general than was supposed. He very pointedly reminded them that a Bill which would have met the evils was sent by the Upper House to the House of Commons in March last, but the latter had not yet given it a second reading. "So long," said the Lord Chancellor, "as the House of Commons allows its business to be delayed by the objections of one or two persons, these and other greater evils will continue to exist."

The treatment of lunatics in private asylums came up in the House of Commons on the vote for expenses of the Lunacy Commissions in England.

Mr. Burns mentioned the case of the five relieving officers of the St. Pancras Board of Guardians, who, instead of having the lunatics in their districts sent to the county asylums, where they would have been well looked after for 11s. a week, had trafficked with owners of private asylums, and been bribed to send the lunatics to these institutions, where the expense of maintenance was three times as great. The delinquents, who had described the practice as a common one in the country, had been severely censured, but it was his opinion they ought to have been dismissed, for it was a point for the investigation of the Lunacy Commission how far the large profits of these owners of private institutions tended to the detention of lunatics longer than was necessary.

The Attorney-General admitted that the case mentioned by Mr. Burns was very serious, but he demurred to the view of the hon. member that such cases were common in the country. He was quite certain that if a particular case of the bribing of officials could be brought to the notice of the Commissioners, they would deal with it effectually.

Sir W. Foster was quite convinced that the owner of a private asylum who would bribe officials would not hesitate to keep a patient in his establishment longer than was good either for the patient or for the public at large.

Private asylums for the treatment of the insane should, in our opinion, be totally abolished, and we should like to see a medical woman appointed when a vacancy occurs for a Visitor in Lunacy.

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