

together in a special ward, in which case three orderlies will be able to attend to half-a-dozen patients."

"The average man would take it for granted that the men chosen for this most important duty would be the flower of the hospital staff. Yet how are these men chosen? Alphabetically, if you please. Brown, Billings, and Bunker may be the biggest duffers in the R.A.M.C., yet, because their names follow in alphabetical succession on the hospital duty roster, they are chosen to take the places of the skilled nurse usually in charge of the ward during the day, at a time when all the skill and courage of a trained nurse are essential for the patient's very life. In a like manner is the 'waiting-room orderly' chosen. If there is any preference given, it is to the duffer who would be useless in the ward. The worst thing about the night duty is that a man so employed has to perform his duty just as usual during the day, which means that men are, at least once a week, on duty for forty hours at a stretch. What is wanted here is a system—one which would provide for a regular weekly tour of night duty, the day being the nurse's own, as in the case of a London hospital. If the science of nursing was all that the orderly of the R.A.M.C. had to master, there is little doubt that, in spite of the disadvantages of the existing regime, he might reasonably hope to make headway in his profession. Nursing, however, is not the sum total of an orderly's duties, and there is not one day in the week in which he can devote himself solely to his ward. Gilbertian though it may appear, twice a week he is called from the side of his patient to draw the blunt sword he is not allowed to carry in war, or go through evolutions which are sacred to times of peace."

"What is wanted in the R.A.M.C. is:—

"(1) That in times of peace it shall be a nursing corps pure and simple.

"(2) That in time of war it shall furnish the staffs for collecting stations, field hospitals, and base hospitals.

"(3) That bearer companies shall be a purely regimental institution, a trained orderly of the R.A.M.C. only being attached to each stretcher party in time of war. (This would allow the whole of the R.A.M.C. to devote themselves to the actual nursing of the sick.)

"(4) That the training of the R.A.M.C. recruit should be such as would allow every man to become an efficient nurse.

"(5) The weeding-out of non-efficients, and the abolition of the ridiculous roster system of choosing men for important duties."

## The American Nursing World.

### AN IDEAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

By the kind permission of Miss Katherine Monk, Sister Matron of King's College Hospital, we were lately able to give our readers some details of the finely organized work of the Training School for Nurses which she has created, and over which she presides with such signal success. We gather from our correspondents both at home and abroad, that they have read the reports of work at King's College Hospital with very great interest. We propose, therefore, in future issues, to contrast the almost perfect training given at King's, with the system in vogue at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, which ranks very high in the estimation of the American people.

Since the late Superintendent of Nurses, Miss Hampton, married Dr. Robb, the nursing school in connection with the Johns Hopkins Hospital, has been presided over by a most able successor, Miss M. A. Nutting, who received her training in, and the certificate of, the School in 1891, and under whose direction continuous progress has been made in every modern method of nurse training and organization.

The system in vogue in the leading American hospitals, of the Superintendent and Principal of the Training School presenting a signed report annually to the Committee, which is incorporated in the Annual General Report of the work of the Hospital, for the use of the Governors, is an excellent departure, and one which it would be well for all concerned, should be adopted by our own Hospital Committees, responsible for the efficiency of the Nurse Training Schools under their direction. No doubt this reform will sooner or later be carried into effect.

### REPORT.

#### TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, U.S.A., 1900.

The training school for nurses continues its usual prosperity. In June last the first class which had taken three years of training graduated and received their diplomas. Their names are as follows:—

Miss F. M. B. Ames, of Cambridge, Mass.  
Miss E. Bent, of Harrisburg, Pa.  
Miss J. Coffin, of Newburyport, Mass.  
Miss F. Colburne, of Churchville, Md.  
Miss E. Corwin, of Catasaqua, Pa.

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