

Rogers, the Superintendent Nurse, who has made such a gallant fight against the mismanagement of the Nursing Department at the East Preston Infirmary, shall be requested to tender her resignation. One wonders more every day at the courage of the women who face the combined powers of prejudice and ignorance, and stand firm for right, and especially, as in this case, when they are left to stand alone. We learn that as Miss Rogers is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, her case has been brought to the notice of the Executive Committee, and that she has received neither encouragement nor support from the Association of which she has been a member for years. This will not surprise the nursing world. All the same, as her legal expenses will amount to some £30, why should not the funds of the Association be used to help a nurse member? The precedent was established when hundreds of pounds of the nurses' money was used to pay the legal expenses of medical members—when Sir James Crichton-Browne and Dr. Bezly Thorne attempted to suppress the individual liberty and legal rights of the Nurses under the old bye laws. Some day we hope that these men may make restitution of the money used in this most unholy cause.

The Croydon Guardians wish Miss Julian to put herself in the wrong by resigning, having, by their own folly, placed themselves in an untenable position. The valiant Mr. Owen longs for the free use of the pruning knife, and complains of friction in the Infirmary, at the same time condemning the conduct of the Infirmary Committee, which had consulted a subordinate officer in the re-arrangement of the "domestic staff," thus spitefully insulting the Matron. Mrs. Williams, who attempted to excuse this action on the ground "that the Assistant Matron was consulted because she knew more about the matter than any other officer," only exposed still further this gross breach of etiquette in the management of the institution. No wonder there is friction.

Like most other philanthropic institutions of a kindred nature, the Birmingham District Nursing Society has to lament that its income does not keep pace with its expenditure. The Lord Mayor has proposed that Birmingham might follow the example of Liverpool and Manchester and other large cities, where two or three manufacturers combine to support a district nurse for the benefit of their workpeople. In Birmingham there are only 17 nurses, whereas Manchester, with a population about equal in

numbers, has no fewer than 55. Mr. Gilbert Barling and Dr. Kirby, speaking for the medical profession, say that without the valuable aid of the district nurse their resources are inadequate to cope with the whole of the sickness among the poorer classes in the city. Surely progressive Birmingham is not going to be behind the sister cities of Liverpool and Manchester in providing for the poor within its gates?

We are weekly bombarded with reports of Boards of Guardians, and the lengthy and contentious matters in reference to nursing affairs discussed by them. We regret we cannot refer to all in detail. The truth is, in the large majority of small workhouse infirmaries the fundamental basis of management is wrong, and we see no hope of friction decreasing until the trained nurse is so trained and legislated for, that her professional status is indisputable. She will then not be used as a "hewer of wood and drawer of water" by coarse and uneducated persons, and made the scapegoat of their unscrupulous ignorance and jobbery.

Says the *Referee*: "Now that the great funeral has become history, it may not be indecent to allude to the omission from the procession of representatives of a class which would seem to have been peculiarly entitled to share in it. I refer to the Red Cross nurses. The late Queen was immediately interested in their existence, and it would have been fitting that, on the occasion of the burial of a Queen, the highest and noblest type of women workers should have been represented."

There is something in this suggestion, as the Queen elected to have a military funeral. For our part we cannot but regret that the precedent established by the great Elizabeth—of being followed to her last resting place by many women mourners—was not followed in the case of Queen Victoria; and where were the Arts and Sciences, the fine personalities "kissed of God," which alone can make and keep a nation truly great? The funeral was altogether too Germanic for our taste.

The officers of the Scottish Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses are pushing its claims as one of the proposed schemes for a National Memorial of the late Queen. It has many claims, and we hope that it will receive increased support. But we want a really National Memorial—not on philanthropic lines—and this should be "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever." For once do let us call in the aid of Art and Science, and give them full play.

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