

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



WE learn that satisfactory progress is being made in the collection of subscriptions for the Women's Memorial to Queen Victoria. The money is to be used to further the good work of the Jubilee Nurses' Institute. Already a sum of £7,000 has been received in donations of £5 and upwards, while £3,000 has been contributed in smaller sums by 25,000 women. To the original fund four million women subscribed, and if an equal number do so now at the same rate as the 25,000 the result will be a total of £500,000. But no doubt the Committee would greatly rejoice if they received a fifth of that sum.

The resignation of Miss Annie Griffiths, Matron of the Lambeth Infirmary, was tendered last week at a meeting of the Board, to take effect in October next, and it was moved "that the resignation be received with the very greatest regret." We are glad to learn that the Board feel how deeply they are indebted to Miss Griffiths for her many years of devoted service to the nursing department of the institution, a lady guardian remarking that "Miss Griffiths had been the best officer it was possible to have." It was then resolved unanimously that the resignation be accepted with very great regret, and that the matter be referred to the Infirmary Committee for consideration as to the amount of retiring allowance which should be made Miss Griffiths. It should be a most liberal one.

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, is one of our "pet hospitals." By that we mean that it has always been looked upon as a very desirable appointment and training school in nursing circles, and the fact that it is now "in the market" has aroused quite a flutter amongst those who desire to succeed Miss Cureton as Matron.

It is now eighteen years since a vacancy occurred in the Matronship of Addenbrooke's, Miss Cureton having been appointed in 1883 to succeed Miss Brown—the immediate predecessor being Miss Alice Fisher, whose memory is still warmly cherished in the nursing world in England

and the States. Many changes have taken place in the training of nurses and their status since those prehistoric times, and the Addenbrooke's appointment will be closely watched by all those nurses who desire the Committees of Training Schools to realise the importance of insisting upon a definite professional standard for those who are now selected to fill the responsible positions of Matrons and Superintendents of Nursing.

We hear that there are numerous candidates already for this important position at Cambridge, and venture to suggest that the Committee shall make it a *sine qua non* that the lady appointed as Superintendent of their Nurse Training School shall be herself a thoroughly trained nurse, holding a certificate of three years' training. That she shall be a well-educated gentlewoman with experience in the management of nurses and of the domestic and social duties of a Matron. We know Cambridge well, and we feel sure that a most important asset in those qualities possessed by the Matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital should be a courteous manner and good social address, in combination with the best professional qualifications. No training school in these days can maintain a position in the front rank where the Matron is not herself a thoroughly trained and certificated nurse—without such qualifications it is very difficult to maintain a modern standard amongst the nursing staff, and Committees of Nurse Training Schools should realise that their Matron's professional qualifications must be the highest, just as those of the Hon. Medical Staff are expected to be where a medical school is attached.

We cull the following dangerous advice from *Woman's Life* of June 29th, given in answer to one "Curious":—

"CURIOUS.—I can only recommend a prescription, so to speak, for diphtheria, which was mentioned in one of our publications, universally known as *TW-Bits*, years ago. It is one of the finest remedies for diphtheria I know of. I well remember a member of the Thames Police telling me how it saved his little child. It is simply flowers of sulphur. Make a tube of paper, place the flowers of sulphur, which can be bought from any chemist for a penny, inside the tube, and blow it down the sufferer's throat."

Surely when dealing with a rapidly fatal disease like diphtheria all that a reputable journal should do, in answer to the ignorant, is to advise seeking the professional advice of a medical man at once. Imagine the agony of the poor suffering child if the brutal treatment recommended was resorted to. It is too horrible to contemplate.

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