

Superintendent of a Training School, I went to England to learn hard to do my work in the best possible manner. I trust that you are quite rested from your journey and that you feel no worse because of all your trying work while here; we did enjoy having you with us, and I hope that your short stay was pleasant to you.

Very sincerely yours,  
LINDA RICHARDS.

November 29th, 1901.

The name of Miss Linda Richards, and now we are pleased to say, she herself, is well known and deeply respected by many nurses in this country, and it seems almost impossible that this brisk and charming woman, full of interest and sympathy with a new generation of nurses, has been a leader in the American Nursing World for thirty years. So long ago as 1873, we find her graduating at the New England Hospital at Boston, and immediately appointed Night Superintendent at Bellevue. Japan owes its first training school to her initiative, and she is still working away as Superintendent of Nurses at the great State Hospital at Taunton.

#### AN INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

*To the Editor of the "Nursing Record."*

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you very much for kindly publishing my report on Nursing in France.

I am actually hard at work doing practical reform work in this hospital of 50 beds.

There are usually about thirty patients—surgical, and medical cases.

The hospital has been worked by probationers for eleven years, but they were mostly treated like servants. Now I have been able to secure ten pro.'s of good education, who will stay two years, with *no salary*, to get a nursing certificate.

There are lectures and examinations. But I found it a very great drawback to have only inexperienced nurses, and have been able to secure for one year the help of a Dutch nurse, who is certificated and has good experience. She has a very small compensation. But even then I find a staff nurse would be a boon, and I wonder whether you may know of a nurse knowing some French, and who would care to learn it perfectly by spending one year here. She might find a good opening here after as a private nurse, for they are very scarce in Bordeaux and very much wanted. Eleven good doctors come in for the patients, and would probably help her on. I cannot offer any salary, for the hospital is not rich and a good many costly changes have been made since I came here.

I take my meals with the nurses, and have to be half Matron and half house doctor.

Our surgical ward of 8 beds is still managed by a male nurse, who has been here twenty years! But all the town is talking about the scandalous fact of putting girls as nurses in a male ward, which I have done since August last. As for the patients—they are delighted.

If you should not know of anyone eligible for this post of staff nurse, would you please insert in the RECORD the enclosed advertisement.

Believe me,

Very truly yours,

(DR.) ANNA HAMILTON.

Ecole Hospitalière  
de Gardes-Malades, Bordeaux.

### A Question of Principle.

Macclesfield is the arena of a great struggle on behalf of the rights of medical women, and matters have now reached a climax.

Some time ago Miss Murdoch Clarke was appointed junior house surgeon of the Macclesfield Infirmary. There was no question as to her fitness for the post. Nevertheless, the medical staff of the hospital resigned en masse rather than admit a lady within their ranks. The governors of the Infirmary begged them to reconsider their action, but this they declined to do.

At a recent meeting the governors decided by a majority to ask Miss Murdoch Clarke to resign, since this was the only condition on which the honorary medical staff would return to duty. But Miss Clarke stuck to her guns and declined to resign, although she was offered a year's salary. The governors could, if they wished, she said, dismiss her, but she was fighting the battle of medical women, and would not abandon her position.

In the face of such a deadlock the governors decided to adjourn.

The affair is watched with the keenest interest. As it is recognized as a test case where the rights of medical women are concerned, they will surely not quietly submit to an adverse verdict.

### What to Give for Christmas Presents.

Many people are just now considering what acceptable gifts they shall purchase to present on Christmas morning to relatives and friends. One which rarely fails to please is a bottle or case of really good scent; we say really good because nothing is more offensive than bad scent. Those who wish to obtain scents of high quality should call at the English Home of 4711 Perfumery, 62, New Bond Street. The 4711 Eau de Cologne has won for itself a well deserved reputation, and would make a most acceptable Christmas gift. Other perfumes sold by the same maker are "Mülhen's Rhine Violets," "Mülhen's Marshal Niel," and "Mülhen's Rhine Gold." In considering the desirability of scent as a Christmas gift it is opportune to quote the opinion of the "Lancet" as to its usefulness: "The use of scent on the pocket handkerchief, which is where we commonly find it, is calculated to exercise a higher office than merely to please the sense of smell. The handkerchief may easily prove a source of infection, for it is made to be the common receptacle of secretions from the nose and mouth, and the employment of an antiseptic handkerchief is perfectly consistent with the dictates of common bacteriological evidence. The liberal use of scent on the handkerchief is calculated to make it antiseptic and to destroy the germs in it owing to the action partly of the spirit of the scent and partly of the essential oils dissolved in the spirit." Here is medical authority for a pleasant habit.

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