

war. For her conspicuous services on both occasions she was awarded respectively the Egyptian medal and clasp, the Khedive's Star, and the Royal Red Cross.

Annotations.

USES OF REST.

There is a growing recognition of the fact that rest is more than a mere restorer of jaded powers, something indulged in only to enable one to do more work. It has a higher purpose to serve than this—one that has reference to character. All our powers have a right to cultivation, and some cannot have it except in quietude and contemplation. There is no reason why the sensibilities, the imagination, and the higher spiritual faculties should be ignored. We are inclined to regard, as a very poor one, the life that has not developed these. The soul must be fed, even if the wheels do not turn so fast, and the fortune does not heap itself up so high, and knowledge does not come in so largely. It was once said very plainly that a man's life does not consist in the abundance of things which he possesseth. A man can make more out of his business than money if he schools himself to feel the higher relations of his life. The world is more than a workshop; it is a garden where God walks, a temple where we may worship and commune. So should we utilise the time of rest, like the night, when the "silent stars look down," and the place of rest, like the quiet aisles of the forest, or the secret shrine of the prayer closet.

THE INCREASING COST OF NURSING SCHOOLS.

The efficient maintenance of a nursing school is a costly matter, a fact which the public are slow to realize. The whole question is one which needs careful investigation, so that justice may be done to all concerned. The main point to be considered in the future is whether nursing is to be regarded as a form of domestic service, or if it is to be placed amongst the skilled professions. We hold that the high degree of technical skill necessary, the intelligence and knowledge required, and the responsibilities involved in its discharge, entitle it to rank amongst the professions. This being so, the rightful place of nursing schools must be amongst the educational agencies, and this

brings us at once to the consideration of the truism that no section of students are paid for receiving a valuable education to fit them eventually for a lucrative profession; they not only maintain themselves during the whole of their student career, but also pay for the instruction received. In the case of nurses it has so far been usual, not only to board and lodge them at the expense of the hospital, but, in addition to providing them with washing and a certain amount of uniform, to pay them a small and increasing salary, from the moment they enter it for training. It is very doubtful if a fictitious value is not placed on the services of these probationers, and if they would command an equivalent recompense in any other capacity whatsoever. True, they perform a considerable, though decreasing, amount of the house work in the wards, and there is no reason why they should do this gratuitously, though even this, in most instances, can only rank as unskilled labour which does not command a high price in the market. It would seem, therefore, that if probationers in training are boarded and lodged at the expense of the hospital, they receive ample remuneration for the services they render. They could certainly not maintain themselves, as they are maintained in average Nursing Homes, for less than thirty shillings a week. The cost of their education, both their practical clinical teaching, and their theoretical lectures, might well be covered, at least in part, by their payment of fees. Thus, not only would the hospitals be relieved of a considerable burden, but nursing students could demand an efficient educational curriculum. At present this is largely a matter of individual conscience and enterprise on the parts of the Superintendents of Training Schools and Hospital Committees.

THE PREVALENCE OF ZYMOTIC DISEASE.

The number of deaths in the Punjab from plague now reaches the appalling average of nearly 70,000 a month. From Cairo it is reported that last week alone there were 1,127 deaths from cholera in the Hejaz, and between March 25th and 28th there were 624 from the same disease at Mecca and 24 at Jiddah. At home the smallpox outbreak shows no sign of abatement, all of which would seem to prove that though medical science ever progresses much yet remains to be done before it has solved the problem of victory over disease.

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