

Appointments.**LADY SUPERINTENDENT.**

Mrs. Florence Lucas has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. She received her training at St. Thomas' Hospital, where she subsequently held the position of Sister, and later was Matron of the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

Miss Mary J. A. Hannan has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the National Maternity Hospital, Dublin. She was trained at St. Vincent's Hospital in the same city where she has also held the position of Staff Nurse and Night Superintendent.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Miss Emilie Louise Foskett has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Hackney Union Infirmary, Homerton. She was trained for three years and certificated at the East Sussex Hospital, Hastings, and has since held the appointments of Sister at the Leeds Union Infirmary, Assistant Matron at the Stirling District Asylum at Larbert, and Assistant Matron at the Rescue Home, Belfast.

Miss Edith H. Grime has been appointed Assistant Matron at the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, Taunton. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, and has also held the position of Head Nurse at the General Infirmary, Hertford.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Charlotte de la Fontaine has been appointed Superintendent of Night Nurses at the City Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, in place of Miss Swallow, who has withdrawn. Miss de la Fontaine was trained for three years at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, where she afterwards held the position of Charge Nurse for two years. She then received maternity training at the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, and holds the L.O.S. certificate. Her other appointments have been District Nurse under the Notts. County Council, Night Superintendent at the New Infirmary, Isleworth, and Assistant Matron at the Kent County Asylum, Canterbury.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

Miss E. Chippendall has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Dorking. She was trained at the Kensington Infirmary, and held the position of Charge Nurse at the South Western Hospital, and at the Brook Hospital Shooter's Hill. She has also had some experience of private nursing, and for the last two years has been Night Superintendent at the Infirmary, Kensington. She holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

Anæsthetics.**No. 2.—ETHER.**

By E. L. B. FORSTER,

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After Chloroform, the anæsthetic, in most general use is Ether. In America it is used in preference, being considered so much safer.

Doubt exists as to who first employed it as an anæsthetic, but it is generally said to be William Morton, a dentist, of Boston, in September, 1846, for extracting.

Previous to this, as early as 1818, Faraday performed experiments with Ether, proving it to be an anæsthetic, as also did some American physicians; Goodman 1822, Jackson 1834. Shortly after Mr. Morton's trial of Ether, a London dentist, named Robinson, used it for the first time in England, on December 19th, 1846. On the 21st, Mr. Liston, a surgeon, operated on a patient under its influence.

In a short time it became in general use in England and on the Continent. But on the discovery of Chloroform, Ether was to a great extent superseded.

On January 19th, 1874, Simpson used Ether in midwifery for the first time.

Ether (C₃H₅)₂O is chemically ethyl oxide.

It is prepared by the action of sulphuric acid on ethylic alcohol. It was at one time called sulphuric ether, on account of its being prepared from sulphuric acid, and even at the present day it still keeps up its old name. The British Pharmacopœia recognises "Ether" and "Pure Ether."

Ether is a very volatile liquid, it contains not less than ninety-two per cent. by weight of ethyl oxide. It has a most characteristic odour, and is inflammable. Its vapour is heavy, highly inflammable, forming an explosive mixture when mixed with air.

It evaporates very quickly, so much so that by its rapid evaporation it produces intense cold.

But Ether itself does not freeze, even when cooled far below zero. It boils at 96 deg. F., specific gravity .735 (taking water as 1).

Ether is miscible in all proportions with Rectified Spirits of Chloroform. It dissolves oils and fats. It takes up 1-10 of its volume of water, and water takes up 1-10 of its volume of ether. It is neutral, neither acid or alkaline.

As much as 60 minims may be given for internal administration. For use as an anæsthetic it is best to use Ether in its purified form, known as Ether Pure.

It is the ordinary Ether, containing ninety-two

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