

tion to the nurses in having passed such a successful examination, and also to the Medical Officer and Lady Superintendent for the very great pains they had taken in preparing the nurses.

Mrs. Mary A. Lockett, whose portrait we publish on this page, is the Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Wimbledon, and a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. In 1891 she entered the Nightingale Training School, St. Thomas' Hospital, and at the end of her term of probation was appointed Staff Nurse in medical and surgical wards, and also had charge of wards in the infectious block. In 1895 she entered the service of the Metropolitan Asylums Board as Superintendent of Night Nurses at Gore Farm Hospital, and on the opening of the Brook Hospital at Shooters' Hill was appointed Assistant Matron, a post which she held until January, 1899, when she was appointed to her present position.

Under the heading "Some Points relating to Massage," the *Lancet* has an interesting leading article, dealing mainly with an address recently given by Sir William H. Bennett to the Society of Trained Masseuses. The lecturer described the old-fashioned "rubbers" as "very respectable people, rather portly in figure as a rule, strictly honest according to their lights; their main purpose seemed to be the rubbing away of knots in muscles which did not exist, and the dispersing of

curious conditions of the veins which were also of doubtful existence." From this it will be seen that the earliest form of massage was more or less of the fraudulent description which the Society of Trained Masseuses has been incorporated to resist.

Unfortunately the fraudulent practice of massage has not ceased at the present time, nor has its practice been confined to "very respectable people." As our contemporary points out, "Quacks have prescribed it and their prescriptions (as well for that matter as those of the medical profession) in respect to massage have been exhibited too often by young women devoid of the slightest knowledge of their subject. Moreover, the way in which the word 'massage' has been employed as a cloak for immoral practices has made it stink in all men's nostrils. This, of course, should not be allowed to affect legitimate treatment by the methods of massage, but apart from the attempt of the *fille de joie* to pose as a *sœur de charité*, some of the distrust of massage has been due to the ignorance or incompetency of many of the professional manipulators and to the absurd and extravagant efforts to proclaim it as an exclusive method of treatment."

The importance of physical fitness, is a point of interest to those nurses who are thinking of adding a knowledge of massage to their qualifications.



MRS. LOCKITT.

Matron Isolation Hospital, Wimbledon.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)