

technical and professional training of those passing its examinations, it cannot attest the moral character or ethical standards of the individual. Nurses must remember this, and realise that the passing of statutes will never relieve them of the responsibility of guarding the honour and dignity of their profession. Schools and associations of nurses must, as heretofore, make this their first charge.

We need both forces to keep us to the mark—the personal force of good influence and education, and the impersonal technical force of law which fixes the necessary amount of training, for, as a wise person said the other day, "Life is such a complicated game that we must have umpires to see that it is played fair."

Miss L. E. Grethe, in a paper read before the Farrand Training School Alumnae Association, urged her hearers to remember that "nursing is a manual occupation and a profession based upon character and health, and a woman engaged in it is afforded peculiar opportunities for exercising and cultivating her natural faculties in the direction that meets these claims—by being herself an embodiment of plain living, high thinking, and healthful, cleanly habits, these become the strong warp of the character that she is weaving. Her presence, her look, her touch radiate health, comfort, and sympathy; and they, together with her knowledge of technique, her systematic methods and skill, her unobtrusive, helpful ways, inspire confidence in the doctor, whose helpmate she is; in the patient, who depends largely upon her for cheer and courage." And she asks:

"Does she ever acquaint herself with her opportunities of self-improvement in her own line, by means of new text-books, the nursing journals, the alumnae meetings, post-graduate work, or clinical advantages? Is she making herself an indispensable member of her own alumnae association by honest, hard work, or is she contenting herself by criticising its weaknesses? Let each nurse bring these questions home to herself and answer them in the searchlight of conscience. The great army of self-sacrificing workers in this profession need no defence or public recognition. Their noble deeds are performed, and their devotion to duty and charitable works are bestowed without thought of favourable comment. Their reward is sufficient in knowing simply that they are helping those more needy than themselves, and that they are doing it for the love of humanity."

STARS AND STRIPES.

The Belgrave Hospital for Children has received a cheque for 3,000 guineas from a gentleman who has been in the habit of cycling past the institution every day, and has been impressed with the business-like character of its work.

Our Heroines.

THE LITTLE MADAM.

There has just died in the United States a most interesting personality, the Baroness von Olenhausen, who even in her advanced age was one of the most noteworthy and attractive persons present at the reception given not long since by the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association to the old Army Nurses. The Baroness, who was the proud possessor of the Iron Cross, was born at Lexington on February 4th, 1817. Her maiden name was Phinney, and after completing her education she went to Manchester, N.H., as a designer of prints in one of the cotton mills. There she met and married the Baron von Olenhausen, who was employed as a chemist in the same mill.

Her married life, though short, was a very happy one. After her husband's death, when the Civil War broke out, she volunteered to go to the front as a nurse, and though refused at first, finally received her commission on the understanding that she would pay her own travelling expenses. In order to do this she sold her sewing machine, in those days a possession of considerable value, and with the money thus obtained went South and served as a nurse throughout the four years of the war. At its close she was appointed Superintendent of Nurses at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

When Prince Henry of Prussia visited Boston, one of the most interesting incidents of his visit was his meeting with the Baroness von Olenhausen. The details of the interview are told in the *Chicago Post*, as well as the story of the award to her of the Order of the Iron Cross. It is conferred by the German Emperor for bravery in war, and there were only two women (now only one, Miss Clara Barton) in America privileged to wear it. Prince Henry promised her the "Medal of Merit," which is the highest the Emperor can confer. It was to replace one which was sent to the "Little Madam" by the Emperor at the close of the Franco-Prussian War with an autograph letter, and which was lost on the way over. This medal gives the privilege of a military funeral, when it is carried on a pillow by two men walking in front of the hearse. After the death of the holder the medal returns to the Emperor.

"Dear little Madam," says our contemporary, "in spite of her eighty-six years and her public services, is as shy as a girl of sixteen, and it is only after much coaxing that she consented to join the score of German women who were received by the Prince at the Hotel Somerset."

The Prince at once caught sight of her Iron

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