

While desiring more official authority for the Superintendent of the American Army Nurse Corps we must not omit to commend the authorities at the Washington War Office for the free hand they give her in matters professional outside its magnificent portals. Mrs. Kinney we find is a member of the various nurses' organisations in the States, and, moreover, edits a report of her important department under the heading of "Department of Army Nursing" in the Nursing journals. So that presumably the authorities realise that the public is interested in the nursing of its soldiers, and has a right to know how it is done. If there is nothing to hide, why make mysteries—they wisely argue. We want more of this common sense in our own Government offices.

The Colonial Nursing Association.

The sixth annual meeting of the Colonial Nursing Association was recently held, by the kind permission of Princess Henry of Battenberg, at Kensington Palace. Her Royal Highness, who is patroness of the Association, honoured the meeting with her presence. The Earl of Westmeath, in the absence through illness of Earl Grey (the President), was in the chair, and he was supported by many persons of light and leading, amongst them the founder of the Association, Mrs. Francis Piggott, Mrs. Chamberlain, Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, M.P., Mr. Hugh Clifford (Malay States), Sir Charles King-Harman (Sierra Leone), Sir West Ridgway (Ceylon), Lieut.-Colonel Montanaro, and Miss Louisa Stevenson, of the Scottish Branch. All the speeches were of most encouraging, not to say laudatory, nature, Miss Louisa Stevenson alone pleading for a more thorough and prolonged training of the nurses selected for pioneer work in our Crown colonies. From the speeches and annual report we gather that steady progress is being made in various directions, and the subjoined table of the number of the new nurses sent out each year since 1897 shows a progressive development in the work of the Association.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

NURSES SENT OUT.

Year ending April 30th	Govt.	Private.	Total.
1897	3	3	6
1898	11	4	15
1899	14	2	16
1900	11	15	26
1901	24	5	29
1902	32	9	41
	95	38	133

The total number of nurses now at work is 89, of whom 65 are employed in Government hospitals

and 24 as private nurses. Last year the total was 67, 46 being Government and 21 private nurses.

PRACTICAL PROGRESS.

Two new branches have been formed this year in Oporto and in the Falkland Islands.

In Oporto an existing local association, finding the difficulty of procuring suitable nurses, desired to be affiliated to the Colonial Nursing Association for this purpose, and in accordance with their wish a nurse was sent out. In the Falkland Islands, where there has been no nurse for over ten years, the Colonial Government and the Association have guaranteed funds, the latter also paying the outward passage of the nurse. The Local Committee being particularly anxious to secure a nurse with some knowledge of dispensing and simple dentistry, Miss Silversides was selected for the post, and given, at the expense of the Association, a course of lessons in these unusual subjects in order that she might be of the fullest possible benefit to the small and isolated community amongst whom she will work. Two private hospitals have been provided with nurses during the year, three nurses having been selected for the Salisbury Hospital, Rhodesia, under the British South Africa Company, and one for the Beira Railway Hospital. Of the new nurses sent out for Government work, five were appointed by the Malay Federated States to work either in hospital or as private nurses. In the West Indies a nurse-matrimon has been provided for St. Vincent. St. Lucia has determined on making a similar arrangement.

The appointments to the Colonial Hospital, Gibraltar, have been entrusted to the Association and three nurses have been supplied during the past year. A matron and three nurses have been recommended and accepted for work in the Concentration Camps in South Africa. The Foreign Office have determined to increase the staff of nurses in British Central Africa; two more nurses have been sent out, bringing the number of the staff employed up to four.

TESTIMONY TO GOOD WORK.

In illustration of the good work being done, the following extracts from reports may be quoted.

The Medical Superintendent at Sierra Leone, writing in August, 1901, states:—

"With a record of sixty cases, forty-seven cures, and six deaths, the Nursing Home has been shown to be a distinct boon to that portion of the general community for whose benefit it was started in 1899. It is worth while to note that of nine cases of blackwater fever, seven recovered, a percentage of 77.7, while of the cases of malarial remittent fever all or 100 per cent. recovered."

The Chief Medical Officer at Accra writes:—

"The Colonial Hospital has been brought to a state of perfection such as no one ever hoped to see. . . . The strongest proof of the efficiency

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