

VICTORIAN TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION.



The examination papers of the nursing examinations instituted by the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association have reached us, and it will doubtless be of interest to the readers of this journal to study the questions set to probationers at the Antipodes in their final examination. They are:—

MEDICAL NURSING.

1. What do you mean by collapse, cyanosis, melæna, dyspnoea?
2. What are the various ways of administering drugs?
3. What are the precautions against infection to be observed by nurses when engaged in nursing a case of enteric fever?
4. Mention the symptoms indicating overdosing which might arise during the administration of each of the following drugs:—Alcohol, digitalis, mercury, opium, and strychnine.
5. In what diseases are bed-sores likely to form? What are the early signs of their formation? How would you prevent them? How would you treat a bed-sore?
6. What steps would you take to induce a restless patient to sleep.

SURGICAL NURSING.

1. What is meant by asepsis? What are the antiseptic lotions in ordinary use, and in what strengths are they used?
 2. What are the nurse's duties in preparing herself for assisting at a surgical operation?
 3. What are a nurse's duties in nursing a case of burns?
 4. Describe in detail the preparation of a patient for an operation for:—(a) Hydatid of the liver; (b) radical cure of hernia; (c) trephining the skull. What instruments should be got ready in each case?
 5. What is meant by the terms primary hæmorrhage and secondary hæmorrhage?
 6. Describe a nurse's duties in nursing a case of fracture of the shaft of the femur.
- Two hours are allowed in which to answer each of these papers.

The Turn of the Tide.

It is reported that the authorities of King's College Hospital have taken to heart the recent strictures in the Press on "Huddled Hospitals," and that the hospital is to be moved to Camberwell. Is this the first evidence that the tide has turned towards the suburbs, and that the hospitals of Central London will move further afield?

Legal Matters.

THE BABY DESERTION CASE.

Eleanor Susannah Gale, the proprietress of a Nursing Home at Kilburn, was on Wednesday sentenced at the Old Bailey to two years' hard labour for abandoning infants entrusted to her care. The Recorder, in sentencing the prisoner, said but for the statement of her counsel (in which we must own we fail to find extenuation) he would have sent the prisoner to penal servitude.

A TWENTY YEARS' RECORD OF CRIME.

In October, 1900, we recorded the conviction for theft, at the Folkestone Quarter Sessions, of Mary Fraser, a notorious character, stated to be a trained nurse, to three years' penal servitude. At the same time we expressed the hope that before she was again at liberty legal registration of nurses might be in force, and the public consequently have some protection against her. Unfortunately, this hope has not been realised, for in October last she was liberated on ticket-of-leave. She has, however, once more been misusing her talents, and attractive appearance, both of which seem to be considerable, and has now been sentenced at the East Sussex Quarter Sessions to three years' penal servitude, followed by two years' police supervision, for house-breaking at Hove.

Mary Fraser is thirty-seven years of age, and the convictions against her date back nearly twenty years, the first conviction being recorded against her in May, 1883, when she received four months' hard labour at the Brighton Petty Sessions for stealing £4 10s. Amongst her escapades is included a daring escape from custody while being conveyed from Winchester to Bournemouth, after which, in spite of the strenuous efforts of the police to recapture her, she eluded their vigilance for eight months, during which time she added nineteen robberies in the South of England to her account. Aliases by which Mary Fraser is known are Blanche Isaacs and Jane Cottiman.

AMATEUR NURSING.

A case of interest to nurses was recently decided in Victoria by Judge Chomley. The plaintiff, an amateur nurse, claimed £94 from the executor of a deceased lady for nursing services rendered from November, 1901, to September, 1902. The plaintiff alleged that the deceased had frequently promised to pay her well, but no particular rate was specified. For the defence it was urged that the plaintiff was simply a lodger in the house, and there was no agreement as to payment for nursing. The Judge said he was not satisfied with the plaintiff's claim, and gave judgment for the defendant. It will be noted that the claim of this amateur nurse was at the rate of payment commanded by one fully certificated. We are, therefore, glad that the Judge took this view of the case.

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