

From this grew the beautiful dispensary at Plaisance. Women like the Duchess d'Uzes and the Duchess de la Rochefoucauld are members and pupils of this widow lady, and the tone of the place is charity, refinement, and yet strict military discipline and organisation.

It is by no means a case of great ladies coming to condescend to the poor and play at nursing, the rules are much too stringent to make it a pastime.

The diplôma is given only after two years' attendance at least three times a week at the dispensary, and three months' daily attendance at a big general hospital, after which theoretical exams. have to be passed as well as practical.

They are required to know how to dress wounds, wash a patient and make his bed, how to prepare for an operation, to know the names of the instruments and which to get ready for each operation.

The dispensary consists of the quarters for the directrice (the aforementioned lady), a waiting-room, a room and ante-room for each sex (each ante-room contains a screen and two couches for patients who may require to lie down while the dressings are done), a room for sterilising appliances—water, dressings, and instruments are all sterilised before use—a ward containing three beds with the daintiest furniture imaginable, and brightened with plants and flowers, and an operating room.

Added to this, there is a dressing-room for the ladies, and a lunch-room.

The ladies are obliged to take off their dresses and wear brown holland overalls. There is to be no display of finery, no frou-frou of silk skirts, no display of jewelry.

Apart from the directrice, there are surveillantès, diplomées, and élèves.

When there are not a sufficient number of surveillantès present, the diplomées take their place in instructing the élèves. No talking is allowed, and orders are given in a whisper.

The strictest rules of asepsis are used even for old chronic ulcers, and what struck me most were bowls of swabs on pedal stands, which opened on the pedal being pressed.

What a contrast was this dainty place, with its pale tinted walls, a crucifix, and a comforting text in each room, and these gentlewomen treating the patients with such kindness, after the dreadful out-patients' departments of the municipal hospitals! No wonder the place is crowded daily from morning till night, and that some forty to fifty ladies are constantly at work.

Since the beginning of the foundation of this dispensary, over 700 ladies have obtained their diplômas, and as they continue in their zeal, it has been decided since the new year to start a fresh field for their energies in another part. A very large number of nuns have applied to come as

pupils, which proves that they have realised the need of learning. Besides which, nuns have come under the laws of nursing, and they cannot do anything now without the possession of diplômas.

(To be continued.)

## Progress of State Registration.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NURSES OF INDIANA.

We warmly congratulate the trained nurses of the State of Indiana. Their Bill for the Registration of Trained and Professional Nurses passed in the Senate on February 21st by thirty-eight votes to three. This makes the sixth American State which has granted legal status to its nurses.

### THE REGISTRATION MOVEMENT IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Graduate Nurses' Association of Philadelphia is to be heartily congratulated on the skilful way in which it has piloted the Nurses' Registration Bill, which it is promoting, through the difficulties which confronted it.

The friends of the Bill scored heavily when, after a lengthy and at times a lively hearing before the Senate Judiciary General Special Committee, the measure was acted upon favourably. The Bill has passed the House, and there will be little difficulty now in sending it through the Senate. Its danger point was in the hearing before the Special Committee, but the Bill stood the test, and comes before the Senate for second reading without amendment to its principal features.

The hearing was held in the Senate Chamber, and the room was well filled with nurses and physicians from Philadelphia, Pittsburg, and one or two smaller towns in the western end of the State. Miss Anna M. Pennypacker, a daughter of the Governor and a nurse, who was trained at the Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia, under Miss Lucy Walker, was in the assemblage, and supported those defending the Bill.

Dr. Harrison Allen, of the Warren Insane Asylum, started the excitement by urging upon the committee that the Nurses' Bill be amended so that instead of all five members of the State Examining Board being nurses *three* should be physicians and the remaining *two* members nurses. He also asked that the Bill be amended, to make eligible graduate nurses of insane hospitals.

Other opposers pleaded that the nurses who have been trained in special hospitals only should be eligible for registration under the Bill.

Miss Maud Banfield, Superintendent of the Polyclinic Hospital, of Philadelphia, spoke first in opposition to any change in the Bill as drafted. She had her facts well in hand and presented them in a manner that undoubtedly made an impression on the Committee. She said that the nurses of special

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