

Nurses of Note.

MISS EDLA R. WORTABET.

Miss Edla R. Wortabet, whose portrait we present to our readers on this page, is well known to them as the contributor of articles in this Journal dealing with nursing questions in Syria, in Egypt, and in France, in all of which countries she has resided. Miss Wortabet takes a keen interest in all matters connected with nursing, which she considers is a calling which requires the services of educated women, and she is in favour of requiring those who desire to hold teaching and administrative positions to pass through a special course, and to produce evidence subsequently of their efficiency in the performance of those important duties. She began her training at the London Temperance Hospital, but, feeling the need for a greater variety of experience than is obtainable in a hospital of that size, she went on to the Middlesex Hospital, where she gained a certificate at the end of a year as a Lady Pupil. She found, however, that with this certificate she was unable to obtain many appointments, nor was she satisfied with the extent of her knowledge, so, after some considerable experience in private, district, workhouse and maternity nursing, she returned to her training-school for further experience. She states

that, including the fees which she paid and the necessary expense of coming from abroad for the purpose of entering a hospital, her training cost her very nearly, if not quite £300, and she holds, and most people will agree with her, that a woman who is prepared to pay this sum should be able to ascertain before entering a hospital what definite curriculum she should pass through in order to obtain recognition as a nurse,

and not to have to discover it from personal experience in the course of her training. She is, therefore, strongly in favour of a minimum standard being fixed by the State. Miss Wortabet has held the position of Lady Superintendent at the Beyrout Hospital, and, finding that the requirements of Syrian nurses as to nursing manuals differ from those of their English colleagues, she has written a book for the special use of Eastern nurses which has been translated into Arabic, and which Lord Cromer has allowed to be used for the instruction of the native nurses in the Egyptian Government Hospitals.

Other positions which Miss Wortabet has held are those of Nursing Superintendent at the Protestant Hospital, Bordeaux, and of Directrice at the Ecole de garde-malades libres, Comberie Hospital,

Paris. It is for the general good that some members of our profession should be able to study nursing problems in different countries.



[previous page](#)

[next page](#)