

Appointments.

SUPERINTENDENT.

The Council of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses have accepted, with great regret, the resignation of the able Superintendent and Inspector, Miss Jane Wade, and have appointed Miss Jean Cowper, Assistant Inspector, to succeed her. Miss Cowper was trained at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and has held the position of Assistant Inspector for a considerable number of years.

MATRONS.

Miss Florence Tice has been appointed Matron at the Samaritan Free Hospital, Marylebone Road, N.W. She was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., and has held the position of Sister at the Birkenhead and Wirral Children's Hospital, where she had charge of the Theatre, and for three years has held the position of Sister at University College Hospital, as Ward Sister, Night Sister, and Housekeeping Sister respectively. She is a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Miss Mary Stewart Donaldson has been appointed Matron of the Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex. Miss Donaldson was trained at the Great Northern Hospital, Holloway Road. After two months' Holiday Sister's duty, she gained the important post of Home Sister at the London Temperance Hospital, Hampstead Road, which she has held since October, 1903. Anyone desirous of obtaining a Matron's Post could not wish for better experience than that to be gained as Home Sister in a small busy hospital like the Temperance Hospital, where there is no resident Steward, and much of the administration falls to the share of the Matron and her Assistant.

Miss F. M. Hollister has been appointed Matron at the Tredegar Park Cottage Hospital, Tredegar, Monmouthshire. She was trained at the Infirmary, Cardiff, where she has held the position of Nurse.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSES.

Miss Alice Dedman has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Strand Union Workhouse, Edmonton. She was trained at the Birmingham Infirmary, and has held the position of Nurse at St. John's Hospital, Leicester Square, and at the Borough Sanatorium, Brighton. She holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society.

Miss Nellie Littlewood has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Withington Workhouse Infirmary, Manchester. She was trained at the Chorlton Union Hospital, where she has held the position of Staff Nurse.

Some Results of Preparatory Instruction.*

By Miss M. ADELAIDE NUTTING,
Superintendent of the Training-School, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

In a paper upon the "Preliminary Education of Nurses" written a few years ago attention was called to the curious fact that although the status of a profession was claimed for nursing, yet our methods of teaching nurses and conducting the work of training-schools in this country was strikingly unlike the methods of teaching in other professions. It was shown that the custom was universal of placing pupils on entering a training-school at once at the practical duties of their work in the hospital ward, leaving instruction in the principles upon which such practice was based to come at any convenient period at a later stage in their career.

An attempt was made to show that in other professions instruction in fundamental general principles always, in all instances, preceded any practical experience; that in medicine, law, theology, or in the applied sciences it was recognised that work was governed by certain principles, and in these principles it was necessary that each student should be carefully instructed; that he should, in fact, master them before he could with benefit handle actual conditions of work or life—in other words, he must have certain knowledge before he could apply it.

It was stated that these various professions of law, medicine, or the applied sciences were no one whit more important to the community nor to the individual than nursing, and not more unlike nursing than unlike each other, and that if it had been found necessary to adopt in them certain general methods of teaching, which had been accepted in all of them and were looked upon as essential in order to obtain effective results, then our methods were clearly wrong, and we ought at least to consider carefully whether or not theirs were applicable to our own particular work.

It was further shown that while such views of the subject might be new to us, they were not new elsewhere, but had been a matter not only of consideration, but of actual experiment, in other countries; that in Glasgow, London, and Dublin the methods above outlined had to some extent been introduced into the most important training-schools, where a brief preliminary course of instruction in principles of certain work was made to precede its practice; that these experiments had in all instances produced satisfactory results, and were looked upon as a marked advance upon previous methods.

The introduction of some similar but more ex-

* Read before the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools, Washington, U.S.A., May, 1905.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)