

must be under naval and military control. I therefore now appeal to all the women of the Empire to assist me in carrying out this great scheme, which is essentially a woman's work, and which is the one and only way in which we can assist our brave and gallant Army and Navy to perform their arduous duties in time of war.

Lord Rothschild and Lord Knutsford also addressed the meeting, and a resolution was passed authorising the appointment of an Executive Committee.

The following have been appointed members of the Council:—

Chairman.—Lord Rothschild.

Vice-Chairmen.—Viscount Knutsford, Viscount Esher, Lord Cheylesmore, Mr. A. Loyd, M.P.

The Duke of Portland, the Marquis of Linlithgow, Earl Roberts, Lord Iveagh, Lord Burton, Lord Curzon, Lord Milner, Lord Grenfell, Lord Walter Kerr, Sir William Butler, Sir Ernest Cassel, Sir John Ardagh, Sir John Furley, Sir Frederick Treves, Hon. Arthur Stanley, Hon. Charles Rothschild, Hon. George Peel, Sir Julius Wernher, Mr. A. Bowlby, Mr. Makins, Dr. Beatson, Mr. Danvers Power.

Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, Duchess of Montrose, Adeline Duchess of Bedford, Marchioness of Londonderry, Marchioness of Lansdowne, Countess of Derby, Countess Howe, Countess Roberts, Georgiana Countess of Dudley, Viscountess Knutsford, Viscountess Wolseley, Lady Chesham, Lady Wantage, Lady Fisher, Miss McCaul, Miss Monk.

The proceedings terminated by a unanimous vote of thanks to the Queen for having graciously consented to preside.

Presentation to a Queen's Nurse.

The people in the Enniskerry and Kilbride districts greatly regret the departure of the Queen's Nurse, Miss Aileen L. Keogh. They recently presented her with a handsome purse of sovereigns as a mark of their goodwill, and to show in a small way their appreciation of the unselfish way in which she has worked during the two years she has been amongst them. The presentation was made by the Rev. Father Neary and Mrs. Hall, of Enniskerry, on behalf of the subscribers. Mrs. Chatterton, of Kilgarron, Enniskerry, the Hon. Secretary of the Powerscourt and Kilbride District Nursing Association, was present. On Wednesday Miss Keogh was also presented with a handsome silver toilet set by Viscountess Powerscourt, at Powerscourt, on behalf of the Committee of the Powerscourt and Kilbride District Nursing Association, for whom she has worked among the sick poor in their own homes.

The Art of Entertaining from a Nursing Point of View.

By Miss M. LOANE,

Superintendent of District Nurses, Portsmouth.

(Concluded from page 60.)

VISITORS.

Much discretion is needed with regard to visitors, especially when the patient begins receiving them after a serious illness. Many nurses seem to think that their first object is to be considered "such nice unobtrusive persons," and as soon as they catch a glimpse of a caller they fly from their post. Far on in convalescence, this may be the right course to follow, but I have seen it practised much too soon. I have known patients a few days after a major operation left alone for half an hour with visitors who knew nothing of illness and very little indeed of the sufferer. The nurse is not unseldom a complete stranger in the neighbourhood, and mistakenly believes that the earliest callers are the oldest and dearest friends. This is rarely the case. The first visitors are generally well-meaning acquaintances who say, holding their courage in both hands, "We really ought to go and see poor So-and-so." The real friends are probably saying, "I long to see her, but I am afraid of tiring her and bringing on a relapse. I do not even go to the house myself, in case I should be tempted to run up and have a long talk with her."

The nurse admits the comparative strangers and disappears. What happens? The visitors are probably horribly frightened at being left with the patient, and can think of nothing to say; the patient over-exerts herself trying to keep up the flagging conversation, and is thrown back for several days.

Of course, it may not be prudent to let these early visitors go away and say: "We could have had such a nice little chat, but that horrid woman stuck there like a limpet and never left us a moment alone." She should remain in the room long enough to see how the land lies, and if she finds that the burden of the conversation is likely to be thrown on the patient, it is best to say with a warning glance at the visitors, "I will come back in a few minutes, or sooner if you will kindly ring the bell. Mrs. — enjoys hearing all the news, but she is not strong enough to talk much at present."

When child visitors come to see a child patient, there will not be much pleasure on either side if the nurse cannot contrive to leave them alone. If it is not safe to do this, she should at least move to the other side of the room, and appear absorbed in reading or letter-writing. Old hospital experience will warn her to keep an eye on any presents that may be brought, more especially of eatables. Children, in the innocence and generosity of their hearts, will often hoard up and give a sick friend the most indigestible dainties. I remember a case

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)