

jumped back before us all. The Frenchwomen of the poorer classes do not wear night-dresses, but a jacket or camisole over a chemise.

We were introduced into the operating theatre, of which one adjoins each ward; the heat was excessive. All the basins used by the operators for washing their hands are sterilised by means of burning alcohol, and these flaming bowls had rather a weird effect. As I only wish to write about the nursing part, I will merely say that everything was done on the most strictly aseptic principles, from the surgeon's point of view. Silence was not *de rigueur*; everybody joked and seemed ready for fun, the students of both sexes behaving like schoolchildren, and frivolous ones at that; the patient was only a case, not a suffering piece of humanity. I was horrified with the want of cleanliness of the patients, also at the manner of bringing them into the theatre. The anaesthetic was given on a bed in a little room between the ward and the theatre. No nurse to chaperone the female cases. Then a porter carried the patient in, clad only in a linen garment hanging half off; no blanket, no stockings, disclosing feet that sorely required scrubbing with soft soap, if not with turpentine. And oh, such nails! The operation over, and after the wound was stitched up, the patient was *stripped*, the dressing applied, and a clean garment put on. She was then wheeled back to the ward with only a sheet thrown over her. It was a ghastly sight for the other patients. I was glad to see that hot water bottles were used, but once in bed the poor thing had to "come round" as best she could, all alone.

The nursing staff in this hospital, like those of many other French hospitals, is composed of illiterate women, who do not live in the hospital, and are insufficient in number, only three nurses for eighty-three patients. There are in France many ladies who, from charitable motives, attend lectures, pass examinations, and call themselves "trained nurses." As they are mostly women of the fashionable world, one may imagine that when they profess to "dress wounds" in the hospitals, their attendance is not very regular. French prejudice renders sick nursing by unmarried women very difficult. Wonderful to relate, the cases seem to do well in spite of the inefficient nursing. Professor X. told me that suppuration is almost unknown! *Je veux bien le croire*. I inquired after my three patients ten days afterwards, and all were convalescent!

Nevertheless, I can understand the horror of the French poor for the hospital. I have heard many say that they prefer to die at home for anything more cheerless and comfortless can hardly be imagined.

As a French woman I am naturally most anxious to be of service to my country, and am gratified to find your journal advocating that the *entente* shall take practical form in the nursing world, and

as I am returning to work in France, please consider me entirely at your service in furthering international goodwill between the women who, both in England and France, are devoting their lives to the care of the sick. Nursing in England has made such splendid progress, in France there are tremendous difficulties to be got over, but with the true love of humanity they are surely not insurmountable. The suggestion that the International Council of Nurses should pay Paris a visit at no distant date, and come into touch with the French nursing world, as it did in Berlin last year with our German sisters, would, if carried out, be helpful in many ways. There are numbers of American nurses working successfully in Paris who would be willing to help organise such a meeting. *Au revoir*.

MARIE.

Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

Her Majesty Queen Alexandra has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of the following to be Queen's Nurses, to date October 1st, 1905:—

ENGLAND.

Name.	Serving at
Lucy MacPherson ...	...Crook.
Dena Leather ...	...Birmingham (Newhall St.).
Gertrude Maude Hardy ...	...Blackburn.
Edith Emily Tolman ...	...Blackburn.
Eva Margaret Hunter ...	...Darwen.
Margaret Katharine Lea ...	...Gloucester.
Barbara Lendrum ...	...Willington.
Ada Parry ...	...St. Helen's and Sea View, I. of W.
Leonora O'Connell...	...Caldervale.
Florence L. W. Hemming...	...Willington.
Honor Margaret Neale ...	...Sheerness.
Harriett Maude Westcott...	...Somerset C.N. Assn.
Margaret Warn ...	...Truro.
Minnie Harding Close ...	...Brixton.
Jessie Lachlan ...	...King's Walden Bury.
Gertrude Evelyn Moore ...	...Warrington.
Edith Katharine Clifford ...	...E. London (Cable Street).
Isabel Mary Eacott ...	...Newark-on-Trent.
Helen Maud Graham ...	...Gloucester.
Grace Helen Vaughan ...	...Hammersmith.
Hilda Beatrice Young ...	...East Malling.
Edith Caroline Birch ...	...Liverpool (Central Home).
Elizabeth R. Lapsley ...	...Tunbridge Wells.
Jane Williams ...	...Liverpool (Derby Lane Home).
Emily Hoskyn ...	...Hebden Bridge.
Elizabeth Burnett ...	...Liverpool (Shaw Street).
Bridget O'Connor ...	...Manchester (Harpurhey).
Annie Spriggs ...	...Oxford.
Alice Louisa Miles...	...Brixton.
Margaret H. Webber ...	...Witley.
Minnie McLean ...	...Rochdale.
Mary Jane Greenhough ...	...Salford.
Ruth Wood ...	...Wisbech.
Elizabeth Alex. Fraser ...	...Crook.
Florence Juanita Fyers ...	...Rottingdean.
Helen Hicks ...	...Shelford.
Elizabeth Hirons ...	...Bath.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)