

for Tilda's ear alone. "Oh! because of all the poor little Tildas, and drunken fathers, and heartbroken dead mothers, and burnt crippled brothers, and hungry cats, very, very specially because of the hungry cats."

"You's a witch now," the child whispers, also: "How'd yer know? I never telled yer. Father, 'e don't mean no 'arm, but 'is sperit's broke since the fire; the sight o' Tim wi'out legs turns 'is stummick; but Tim sells matches and gives right chinge, I larned 'im to earn a honest livin'. And that there cat, golley, ain't she just vicious; can't she jus' cuss, and spit; she must a-come from Afar and Beyond, same's you and me. Did us come on a broomstick, think yer? But, oh! yer will let me discharge meself won't yer, Sister, now yer knows as dooty calls? Who's ter do for 'em all if I'm a guzzling 'ere?"

"Little Tilda True Heart," says Sister softly, "Your father's——"

"In quod," exclaims Tilda, "there, I know'd what would 'appen if I deserted 'im, pore, pore feller. But 'es sife, thank Gawd," she adds philosophically.

"And a lady I know who is looking after Tim told him that Tilda's great heart was fit to——"

"Bust," interrupts the child.

"Yes, bust," echoes the Sister, "because he was all alone, and she couldn't get his Christmas dinner, and like as not she would mount her broomstick and fly away through the window, and then Sister would get into terrible trouble, so he said he would just come right away to Tilda's ward on Christmas Day, and show her his fine new clothes and see what was in her stocking, and——"

"And that there cat?" demands Tilda.

"Is on a long visit to the cat's meat-man."

Tilda draws a deep sigh and a minute goes by, then she clutches Sister's hand.

"You're a bit of allright," she says with conviction, and now I'se going to 'owl."

And she did.

E. G. F.

The *American Journal of Nursing* states that the reorganisation of the National Red Cross Society is well under way, and in such a manner that every person desiring to do so can easily become affiliated with the Society. Amongst the eminent nurses already enrolled in the State of New York are Miss Delano, of Bellevue; Miss Maxwell, of the Presbyterian; Miss Wald, of the Nurses' Settlement; and Miss Sophia Palmer. Of all Societies the Red Cross should be the most national. We could wish to see it brought in touch with the people in this country.

The Central Midwives' Board.

A meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, on Thursday, December 14th. There were present:—Dr. Champneys (in the chair), Miss Paget, Miss Wilson, Dr. Dakin, and Mr. Parker Young.

A letter from Dr. Fothergill, on behalf of the Examiners for the Manchester Centre, was referred to the London Examiners to report upon.

The Report of the Standing Committee was then received. The Committee recommended that Caroline Harvey, a certified midwife, who had been reported to the Board for malpractice, should be censured. It also recommended that six other midwives reported to the Board for negligence, misconduct, and other offences should be cited to appear before the Board.

Mr. Parker Young drew attention to the fact that in one case the accused midwife had been admitted to the Roll by virtue of a certificate of good moral character, signed by the Rector of St. Clement's, Worcester.

The Board having been subsequently informed that in January of the present year this woman was convicted of larceny, the Secretary communicated with her reference, asking him to furnish the grounds on which he testified to the good moral character of the woman two months later.

The reply received was considered unsatisfactory, and Mr. Parker Young made some strong comments on the testimonial having been given.

The following institutions were recommended for recognition as training schools:—The Newport and Monmouthshire Hospital, the Royal Derby and Derbyshire Nursing and Sanitary Association, the Brighton and Hove Hospital for Women. The Kensington and Fulham Infirmarys were also recognised as training schools. The following were recommended for recognition by the Board as teachers:—Dr. Henry George Smeeth, Mr. Charles L. Granville Chapman, M.R.C.S., Dr. Charles Reid, Dr. Robert G. Riddell. In two cases in which applications were not endorsed by the Committee they were strongly supported by Mr. Parker Young.

The applications of the following certified midwives for approval under Rule C. (L) (2) were recommended:—Miss Alice Louisa Evans (provisionally), Miss Louise A. Eames, Miss Lily E. Faulkner, Miss Matilda Stone, and Miss Jennie Gray.

The report of the Standing Committee was adopted.

Miss Wilson drew attention again to the case of certain pupils connected with the District Nursing Home, Cheltenham, who had been refused extra time in which to fill in their schedules before the next examination of the Board. She thought the difficulty had arisen owing to the vacillation of the Board in fixing the time of its examination, and that if the rule were in this instance relaxed the necessity would not again arise. Eventually Miss Wilson gave notice to rescind a resolution of the Board in relation to this subject at the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting of the Board was fixed for January 25th, and the consideration of the penal cases for January 30th.

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