

leaving the home he refused, through his solicitors, to pay the witness's account, the ground given being the gross neglect and mismanagement of his case whilst in the home.

Lady FitzGeorge, Mr. Lockwood, and Dr. Dakin testified to the satisfactory arrangements of the home.

For the defence, Dr. W. A. Probert, who was called in at 10 p.m. on July 26th, said he found the patient in a state of considerable nervous excitement and in great pain and discomfort.

Miss Murphy, the nurse who removed him to Egerton Crescent, said that the first day in which she went with this object the patient was too ill to be moved. The following day he was moved in a horsed ambulance. He was in great pain and very weak.

Another nurse, Miss Levan, also gave evidence.

The defendant, who said he was a member of the Bar, stated that his meals in the home were unpunctual, his breakfast on one occasion being an hour late, and his medicine was not administered punctually. His room was neglected, and the proprietress, Miss Pinder, was insolent.

In cross-examination the defendant said that he did not object to being attended by an elderly nurse, or one over forty, if she were competent, but his nurse was incompetent. Miss Pinder spoke in a rude and offensive manner as if her patient were under a sort of discipline, and he resented that. By Saturday he was not on speaking terms with Miss Pinder, and he had requested that the other nurse should not enter his room. He did not suggest that Dr. Chittenden had an interest in the home.

The judge was so clearly of opinion that the plaintiff was entitled to recover that he did not ask his counsel to address him. He had not, he said, to decide whether the treatment of the patient in the home was negligent or the reverse. Miss Pinder had called witnesses who had given her a very high character; on the other hand, she had been compelled to make admissions which struck one as somewhat remarkable. His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff on the claim and also on the counter-claim with costs.

As the defendant did not suggest that the plaintiff had any pecuniary interest in the home we do not consider that he was well advised to counter-claim on the ground of the alleged inefficiency of its arrangements. As the judge pointed out (the plaintiff not being liable) he had not to decide as to whether the treatment in the home was negligent. If, however, as was alleged and not contradicted, the patient had to turn out his light before a nurse clad in her nightdress could come into the room to wait upon him at night he certainly had ground for complaining of the arrangements.

The registration and supervision of all nursing homes is much to be desired.

In aid of the scheme for providing a nursing Sister to live in the Cottage Hospital at Ober-Ammergau and visit the sick in their own homes, Miss Milner will tell the story at Grosvenor House on Wednesday, March 14th, at three o'clock.

A New Army Order.

A QUALIFICATION FOR MILITARY MATRONS.

Army Orders for February provide that the following paragraphs are to be inserted after paragraph 1,197A in King's Regulations:—

EXAMINATION OF SISTERS FOR THE RANK OF MATRON, QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

1,197B. Sisters of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service will not be promoted to the rank of Matron until they have passed the examination set forth in Appendix VIII.D.

This examination may be taken after completing five years' service in the rank of Sister. The written examination will take place half-yearly, on the last Monday in May and November.

The board of examiners for Sisters, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, for the rank of Matron, will consist of a Principal Matron, as president, and two Military Matrons as members; for stations abroad, a board will be appointed to conduct the oral portion of the examination, under arrangements made by the Director-General, Army Medical Service. The written portion of the examination will be supervised by a local board, consisting of a Matron as president and two Sisters as members.

Sisters on leave from abroad will apply to the War Office for facilities as to examination.

Sisters serving abroad will, whenever possible, be examined by a board in the command in which they are serving.

Examination papers for the written portion of Part I. will be prepared under the direction of the Director-General, Army Medical Service, application for permission to be examined should therefore be submitted to the War Office in time to enable papers to reach the respective commands before the date of examination.

To enable Sisters of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service to procure the necessary certificate of administrative capacity referred to in Appendix VIII.D, Sisters of four years' service and over, in that rank, may (as far as circumstances admit), at their own request, undergo a two months' course of special instruction in Matrons' duties.

(b) The following will be inserted after Appendix VIII.C:—

APPENDIX VIII.D.

PROMOTION TO MATRON.

Syllabus referred to in paragraph 1,197B.

Subjects in which the Board is to test the capabilities of the Sister are as follows:—

PART I.

The examination will be written and oral; the written portion will consist of four questions, for which three hours will be allowed.

The time allowed for the oral portion will be 15 minutes.

The examination will consist of questions bearing on the following subjects:—

(a) The Regulations affecting the Army Nursing Service, and the relations of its members to the medical officers, nursing staff, and patients of hospitals; method

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