

## District Nursing in the Poorest Parts of Ireland.

Lady Dudley's scheme for the establishment of district nurses in the poorest parts of Ireland is one which, by reason of the urgent needs of the people cared for, must have a special interest for nurses. The third annual report of this good work, which has been prepared by the Founder, is a very interesting one, as well as attractive in appearance. It bears on the cover the badge worn by the nurses, blue in colour and heart shaped in form, in the centre of which is a green shamrock leaf.

The value of the work of the nurses em-

There are now fourteen nurses at work, four in Co. Galway, two in Kerry, three in Mayo, one in Roscommon, one in Cork, and three in Donegal. Ten of these, amongst the nurses first appointed, are still staunch adherents of the work. They find their reward in the appreciation and gratitude of the warm-hearted people to whom they minister, often under the most trying conditions, and in the testimony freely borne to the value of their services.

Thus Monsignor Walker writes of Nurse MacMahon, who is at work on Arranmore Island, and Nurse Brady, at Annagry, Co. Donegal, "their assiduity and unflagging devotion in attending to the sick poor by night or day are above all praise, especially during the very severe



NURSE LOUGHREY ON HER ROUNDS AT GLENCOLUMBKILLE, Co. DONEGAL.

ployed can scarcely be over-estimated. All are fully trained Queen's nurses, a necessity in these remote districts where it is only possible to obtain medical assistance after a delay of many hours, so that the nurse is constantly placed in positions of the utmost responsibility, and may have to deal unaided with cases requiring the highest skill and knowledge. In seeking to maintain a high standard, both as regards character and qualifications among their nurses, the Committee have in view not only the relief of the immediate necessities of the people in these backward districts, but their education in the laws of health and sanitation, and the general improvement of the conditions under which they live.

epidemic of measles that prevailed here for a considerable time. We all wondered at their power of endurance in such trying circumstances, and feared they must break down under the strain of such constant drudgery."

Two of the nurses, Nurse Farrelly and Nurse Donald contracted typhus fever in the discharge of their duties. Both ultimately recovered, and both have returned to their duties nothing daunted.

Of the many cases recorded by the nurses we extract the following:—

1. "A maternity case, and a particularly sad one. The woman lived three miles from the village, and this was her eleventh child, and, though she had been ill all night, it was only at 12.15 p.m. next day that her little girl came for me, with no more urgent mes-

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