

must be conserved, and exertion be avoided. The glass funnel and indiarubber tube joined by a short glass tube to an indiarubber male catheter No. 10 to 12 are best used in either case, carefully warmed and the air excluded. A small piece of cottonwool should be placed below the anus, though, if the enema be properly administered, there should be no need of it. Enemata for retention should be given slowly, the catheter being introduced some eight or ten inches up into the bowel. A plug of cottonwool should be pressed against the orifice on withdrawal.

Air enemata are rare, being used in cases of intussusception, and would be given by the medical practitioner.

A. L. B.

### The Mothers' Union.

An "At Home for Nurses" was held by Miss Forrest and Miss Todd in the Havergal Hall, Bournemouth, on January 17th, with the view of interesting the local nurses in the organisation known as The Mothers' Union. Mrs. Arkwright (formerly Sister Elizabeth in St. Bartholomew's Hospital) addressed the nurses at some length dwelling at first on the great and widely-spread need for such a society and then detailing its origin, its foundation by Mrs. Sumner, its subsequent history and its aims and intentions; she also specially dealt with the nurses' work in connection with the society, pointing out how valuable would be their co-operation in making the Union better known amongst those with whom their professional duties brought them into contact. Mrs. Arkwright's speech was received with much attention and at the tea which followed there was a good deal of discussion, the nurses present displaying very general interest in the Association and its work. Most unfortunately Mrs. Nankevil (the local Secretary of the Mothers' Union) was unable, through illness, to attend the meeting.

Accounts of the meetings of district nursing associations in various parts of the country show that much good work is being done in the homes of the poor, and from the reports made it is evident that the services of the nurses are much appreciated by the patients.

We regret to report the suicide of another nurse, Nurse Maggie Roberts, of the Carshalton Hospital, who died within half an hour after taking strychnine.

### Progress of State Registration.

We have pleasure in acknowledging with thanks the following donations to the Nurses' Registration Fund:—From Miss E. S. Haldane, £1; Miss Rosina Graham, £1 1s. and 10s. Petition; Miss H. M. Thorold, 5s.; Miss C. C. Du Sautoy, 2s. Petition.

The *American Journal of Nursing* has done good service to the profession generally. The January number contains every Registration Bill passed in the United States, published in full. For comparison, this arrangement is excellent, and this copy of the Journal should be carefully kept for future reference.

Kentucky is welcomed into the roll of States which have organised for State registration, which will now number twenty-five—and to realise that in 1892 there was not one organised society of trained nurses in the American Continent! What a blessing to belong to a young and vigorous community which has no hydra-headed prejudices and privileges to overcome.

The *Australasian Nurses' Journal*, in its issue of December 15th, which is just to hand, has an admirable editorial, with which we are in full sympathy, on the subject of the Bill for the regulation of private hospitals, and, incidentally, for the registration of trained nurses, to which we have previously referred. The article proves the value to nurses of an organ of their own in which the professional point of view can be fearlessly expressed, and that we were right when we assumed the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association would take steps to ensure that the interests of trained nurses shall be safeguarded. The article points out that the matter of State Registration of Nurses is one of great importance, and worthy of its own special Act of Parliament. The general feeling appears to be that all the States should combine in their efforts to secure a Federal Bill, and that it is unwise for one State to act independently in regard to the registration of nurses. As Dr. Mackellar's Bill has now been referred to a Select Committee, the A.T.N.A. has asked that representatives of that Association may be called to give evidence before it. Our contemporary points out with much force that the standard required of the matron of a training school recognised by the A.T.N.A. should be made to apply to matrons of private hospitals.

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