

there were sixteen nurses and probationers at work, who earned £335 per annum, which clearly did not cover the expenses, for the institution was £114 in debt. Now it is as plain as daylight that Miss Corvan not only saved the home from insolvency, but raised it by her own energy and business-like capacity to the present state, because the lay management has remained the same.

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WHAT the improvement has been may be guessed from the undisputed figures and facts. Instead of a debt as in 1887, the institution now has a balance to its credit of £802. There were last year forty-nine nurses and probationers, and these earned £1,700—figures which are most striking and suggestive, because they show that *three times the number of workers earned five times the amount of money* brought in by the staff engaged ten years previously. To my mind, this is the clearest possible proof that Miss Corvan's management must have been both efficient and popular. In fact, such figures must be quite inexplicable upon any other supposition. But when one turns to the arrangements of the Nurses' Home, one can only marvel that such results have been obtained against such obvious disadvantages.

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THE institution, I hear, has only two bedrooms for nurses, containing altogether *nine* beds—a number which appears to me wholly inadequate for such a staff, and an arrangement which certainly must have entailed the greatest discomfort to everyone, endless annoyance to the healthy, and most cruel disturbance of any nurses who have been temporarily invalided. For it will hardly be believed that there is not a single quiet room available for any employée who is ill, and that Miss Corvan herself on one day each week was compelled to give up her own room and conduct her correspondence in the kitchen! The ridiculous inadequacy of the accommodation has, I hear, been pointed out frequently to the committee; and to my mind it is only one proof more that the institution owes nothing of its success to that body, seeing that it has steadfastly declined to do anything in the way of enlarging or improving the home.

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WHEN Miss Corvan's resignation was debated, the chairman of the meeting (who, it is said, is the Mayor) is reported to have stated that the only course to pursue was to "consider that lady as dead, and fill up her post on that supposition." Such extraordinary bad taste, however, is only equalled by the ingratitude displayed. For my part, I can only wonder that Miss Corvan and her nurses have endured their manifold discomforts so long and so patiently. No one can be surprised or fairly censure them for supporting their Lady Superintendent in her endeavours to benefit their condition and the surroundings of the Home.

THE wisest course for Miss Corvan to pursue now, would be, it seems to me, either to secure the support of the leading medical men in the town—who at any rate would act as honourable gentlemen—and sufficient friends to guarantee a certain amount of capital to meet the expenses of the first two years, and then to open a private nursing home of her own; or, better still, to persuade the authorities of the General Infirmary to appoint her Superintendent, and let her organize a nursing home in connection with that institution. That would be better for Miss Corvan, because securing her against all financial risk and responsibility, and because sooner or later the Infirmary is sure to follow the rapidly increasing number of other great hospitals pursuing that plan.

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FOR example, I have just heard that the Sussex County Hospital, at Brighton, opened a private nurses' home of its own at the beginning of this year, "thereby supplying a want long felt in the town and country districts around it." The Matron writes as follows:—"The working of this institution has, so far, been highly satisfactory. For the first six weeks of the year there were but five nurses at work, but the number has since been increased to eight." In the first four months, nurses were sent out to thirty-six cases on the application of fifteen medical men, and the amount earned was £156. My correspondent shrewdly adds her conviction that such homes in connection with hospitals are sure to be widely adopted and successful, because the public will feel that the character and efficiency of the nurses have been fully tested; while hospital authorities could then guarantee employment for the nurses they have trained, who give evidence by their conduct and work that they are fit for the responsible and important duties of private nursing.

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I HEAR that Miss Gilpin has been appointed Matron of the Military Hospital at Gibraltar. She was trained at the Children's Hospital, at Nottingham, then became a Staff-nurse at St. Bartholomew's, Sister at the Children's Hospital, Shadwell, and, finally, Sister of the Lewis Loyd Ward at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. She has always been most popular with her colleagues, and much trusted and respected by all with whom she has worked. She was, I believe, one of the earliest members of the British Nurses' Association, and will take with her to her distant post the best wishes of a large number of professional friends and fellow-members.

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MISS E. FLETCHER writes to me, in accordance with the request I have more than once made, that she has been chosen Matron of the Boscombe Cottage Hospital, from over fifty other candidates for the post. She was trained at the Bradford Infirmary and Fever Hospital, and afterwards worked at the

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