

great advance made in Nursing in England, Germany, and Greece, where Royal ladies have been most active; and added that women of all ranks were awake to the necessity for, and were assisting to provide trained Nurses, amongst whose many requirements four at least were essential: "A good head, a good heart, good health, and a good temper."

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I AM glad to see from a Kidderminster paper that the parents of the poor little children so bravely saved from death in the late disastrous fire at the Borough Fever Hospital by the Matron, Miss MULLIGAN, and her Nursing staff, are most anxious to do something to express their deep gratitude to these ladies. Mr. ERNEST STRADLING, the father of one of those rescued, writes, making a suggestion, and adds:—"The Pessimist would tell us that we live in a cold, selfish, sordid age, but the events of last Sunday, to which I have referred, and which are so well known by now, prove that we still have among us women—noble, self-sacrificing, self-denying women—who readily gave up all they possessed to save the lives of our little ones." This is gratifying, and I sincerely hope these brave Nurses are recovering from the terrible shock the fire must have been to them.

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I AM glad to read from the *Northern Echo* of the great success of the Middlesbrough Nursing Association, under the able direction of Miss PURVIS.

"At the Third Annual Meeting, the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. WILLIAMS, read from the report which stated that the work of the Association had increased steadily, and the committee had the satisfaction of knowing that the appreciation of the services of the District Nurses was increasing, and also that the good work they were doing among the sick and suffering poor was becoming daily better known and more gratefully received. Ignorance of the most ordinary sanitary precautions and of the most elementary details of sick-nursing existed to the greatest extent amongst the poorer classes, and the District Nurse had much to contend with in the strong prejudice and dislike to innovation which prevailed so largely. She had to make many contrivances to supplement the very insufficient nursing appliances at her command, and to endeavour to induce the friends and relatives of her patients to follow out her directions. The Committee felt that the Middlesbrough District Nurses, who had many difficulties to overcome, had the strongest claims upon the sympathy of the public, and they took that opportunity of rendering their sincere thanks to Miss PURVIS and her staff for their useful and devoted services. During the year 1892, the Lady Superintendent and her two District Nurses had paid 9,254 visits, the number of patients being 340, those figures showing a considerable increase on those of the previous year. Of the 340 patients, 246 recovered, 15 were transferred to Hospital or Convalescent Home, 69 died, 3 were removed from the books, and 9 were still under the Nurses' care. The staff consisted of two district and two private Nurses, but a third district Nurse had been engaged and would shortly begin her duties. The Commit-

tee found their premises scarcely sufficient for their needs, and would like the Nurses to have better accommodation, but their income from fixed subscriptions was too small to allow of any present change. They would earnestly ask those firms in the district which do not subscribe, to do so, that the good work done need not be restricted by want of Nurses.

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At the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Arbroath District Nursing Association, held on Monday, the Nurse, Miss FORSYTH, was presented with the badge which the Queen Victoria Jubilee Nursing Institute awards to the fully-qualified members of its staff. Mrs. LINDSAY CARNEGIE, who presented the badge, congratulated Miss FORSYTH on the record of her work in Arbroath, adding that she had already won the esteem and approbation, not only of the Nursing Association, but also of the public of Arbroath, among whom her work lay.

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THE Birmingham District Nursing Society, according to Mrs. KENRICK, find a difficulty in reaching one section of the working classes. If the superior artisan falls ill, his wife is supremely jealous as to her rights. She has great faith in her own ability to nurse her husband, even though his case is one which requires the delicate handling of a trained Nurse. Then she objects to "having another woman in the house." The latter reason for not coming to the society for help is, we believe, frequently heard, and is one, I feel sure, that every true Nurse will sympathise with. I heard a medical man remark the other day, that he considered it "a disastrous thing for the development of our mothers and daughters, that immediately there was sickness in a house it should now be considered necessary to send for a trained Nurse. He had seen children better nursed in every way by a devoted mother or nurse-maid, than by the majority of so-called trained Nurses. Nursing the sick should be as much the part of a woman's duty, as caring for the well. A mother, or wife, should most jealously guard her right to devote her time to the care of her nearest and dearest. Nature is an infallible guide, and *love* teaches twice as quickly as *duty*."

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WHAT do my readers think of this doctor's views? It would be an interesting subject for discussion in this journal.

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How long will it take—writes an esteemed correspondent—before we have a Co-operation of Nurses in every district of the United Kingdom, so that their just earnings shall not be filched from them under the cloak of charity?

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