

I AM glad to hear that the great Meeting of Nurses in Amsterdam, which we reported, at length, last year, has resulted in the foundation of a Dutch Nurses' Association. I hope next week to be able to give the full particulars and Rules of the new Nursing society.

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I HEAR that Miss BRIDGET KELLY has been appointed Superintendent of Nurses at Dr. STEVENS' Hospital, Dublin. She was trained at Dr. STEVENS' and St. MARKS' for the Institution, 26, Ushers Quay. After two years' private Nursing for this Institution, she was appointed Charge Nurse of the Female Medical Military and Civilian Wards at Dr. STEVENS' Hospital, where she remained for two years. Miss KELLY then went to Jervis Street Hospital as Nurse-Matron, and was the first Nurse to start the training of Nurses in an Hospital under Nuns in the Irish Metropolis; she resigned this appointment to become Superintendent of the Hospital wherein she was trained. Miss KELLY is a member of the R.B.N.A. and a Registered Nurse.

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THE following letter, which appeared recently in the *Southampton Times*, is typical of the change which is quietly taking place all over the United Kingdom. There is no doubt that Her Majesty's Jubilee Institute is doing a most wonderful work, and that, in another few years, the Queen's Nurses will be the most important body in the profession.

"A meeting of the subscribers to the District Nursing Home is to be held on Thursday next, May 4th, and, as the meeting is an important one, I trust you will find room for this appeal to the subscribers to make an effort to attend. As many of your readers are probably aware, district Nursing among the poor has been carried on for many years under the auspices of the Hampshire Nurses' Institute. Last September the subscribers to that institution decided to replace their former Nurse, and to carry on the district Nursing by means of the organisation instituted by the Queen out of the fund subscribed for the Women's Jubilee Offering. In order to comply with the requirements of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute, the separation of the district Nursing from the paying work of the Hampshire Nurses' Institute has been decided upon, and the subscribers to the fund for the district Nursing are to be called together on Thursday, at the Shaftesbury Hall, to elect a Committee and to transact other necessary business. Although a new organisation for the support and control of the district Nursing is to be formed, the work itself has been going on since last October, and has already amply proved the wisdom of the change which has been made. Those who are in a position to judge from actual knowledge, speak highly of the work the Queen's Nurses have done, and they are much valued by the doctors whose cases they have nursed. If it were not for the proverbial difficulty of raising money for objects of undoubted utility, which lack the element of sensationalism it would be unnecessary to insist on the urgent need for efficient district

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Nursing in a town like this, or to ask your readers to picture to themselves the amount of suffering which but for good district Nursing must go unrelieved. There are at present but three Queen's Nurses, and money is required, not only to carry on the present establishment but to enable the Committee to engage a larger staff. Here is an object against which no competent authority has ever urged an objection. The Nursing of the sick poor and the instruction of the most ignorant in ways of self-help and cleanliness and wholesome living, is a form of charity of unsurpassed importance, and one which cannot fail to have a good effect upon the future health and happiness of the town. Let me, therefore, urge upon your readers the importance of establishing good district Nursing as one of our remedies for the ignorance, dirt, and misery which surround us.—Believe me, yours faithfully,  
GERTRUDE E. BULLAR.  
April 27th 1893.

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IN reference to the question of Midwives, a kind correspondent sends me the following cutting from the *Provincial Medical Journal*.—

We have laid down the cardinal principle that the midwife must be ended and not mended. We insist upon the obstetric Nurse with a three years' training. We hope to carry on the crusade with vigour against a proposal for a Bill so thoroughly dangerous and against the best interests of the parturient.

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THE *Eastern Daily Press* recently published the following sensible letter, which may be commended to the earnest notice of a large section of semi-trained Nurses, who imagine that they enhance the respect in which they are held, by insisting upon their own importance :—

"It is with considerable regret I have read 'A Nurse's Complaint,' and for fear that 'silence should give consent,' I wish to give my own experience. Surely as Nurses we must undertake duties which call for ceaseless self-denial; but if we have our patients' welfare rightly at heart, we shall have courage to over-look all unpleasantness, and lose sight of danger in the path of duty. I am glad to have an opportunity of testifying to the great kindness and consideration I have met with in all the families in which I have nursed in England. My professional appellation, "Nurse," I look upon as a mark of respect, and prefer it to "Miss" as a prefix; but such a trifling matter should be above being treated by a Nurse as a grievance. With regard to rest and outdoor exercise, it is almost impossible to lay down a hard and fast rule, but I have always found it advisable to have a thorough understanding from the first. Anyone must be indeed devoid of charitable feeling who can deny consistent forbearance in these important matters. Furthermore, every doctor values his patient's interest too truly to overlook justice being done to the Nurse, of whom so much is expected. In this matter also I could not desire more than has been done for my comfort. Unfortunately, we have to contend with the erroneous idea that a "lady" Nurse requires to be waited on hand and foot. I would not imply that I expect to do everything; but no lady will give herself airs or be above doing all she can to save trouble. Sickness entails extra work in any case, and a Nurse cannot go into a house without herself causing more for the servants to do. Let us have for others the same consideration we expect for ourselves, and we shall not fail to earn respect and co-operation. I trust my fellow worker may have cause to alter her opinion, and receive the respect and consideration due to her social position.  
A QUALIFIED NURSE."

S. G.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)