

MISS M. S. STANLEY writes to the *Queen* :—

"There has been lately such lively discussion as to the management of a large London Hospital, that a few notes supplied by the daughter of a leader of the Bavarian Frauenverein may be of interest, as throwing a side light on German matters of the same kind. The remarks are sketchy, and in no way profess to dogmatise; moreover, regard must be had to the differing manners and customs. Countess Fanny Ysenburg, speaking of the arrangements known to her at Munich, says: 'The candidates who wish to become Sisters of the Red Cross must appear before the Nursing Committee with their testimonials. The conditions to be fulfilled, the duties of Probationers and Sisters, rules as to their employment, their clothing and diet, their relative position to the Matron and to each other, their claim to a retiring pension, &c., are all set forth in a published report, too long to quote here. The chosen candidates receive theoretical instruction from the doctor attached to the Hospital, and practical teaching from the Oberin, or Matron, herself a trained Nurse, and the Sisters in charge there. The Matron's first duty is to inspire the Probationers with the *true sister-feeling*, and to do this, and to understand aright their individual characters and capabilities, she must, of course, live in constant intercourse with them. It is her province to decide on appointing Nurses to cases as they arise, and jointly with the Committee she arranges whom to send to outlying posts. It is a general rule not to send Probationers to private cases. As the Matron is responsible for the entire house-keeping management, and at the same time is Hausfrau and so to speak the motherly friend to the Sisters she obviously cannot live her own life as it seems the Matron of an English Hospital may. Both in Red Cross Institutions and in Deaconesses' Nursing Homes, the Matron and other authorities are careful that the Sisters should have proper nourishment and hours for rest. As far as possible they take their meals together, so that a second dinner is prepared for relays, in case there are too many patients to be all left at once. At the Deaconesses' Home a cup of hot tea is given to all Nurses who have night work, after supper (6.30) and evening prayers, and tea is drunk at sundry other times as well, it appears. There is at the *crèche* a supply of wine for the Sisters on night duty and in all probability at Deaconesses' Home also. Butter is not so generally eaten in Bavaria as in England and North Germany, so that the butter difficulty scarcely exists. Sisters who nurse infectious cases are totally separated from the others. In the Munich Children's Hospital, for instance, the Sisters who nurse scarlatina and measles are, with their patients, strictly isolated in a pavilion quite distinct from the main building, and forbidden all association with the other Sisters. The disinfection of bedding and other linen is performed with the greatest care, under medical rule and regulation."

WE may congratulate Miss ANNIE BLENNERHASSETT and Miss LUCY SLEEMAN upon their return to England, after three most stirring years of work in Central Africa, two of which have been spent in nursing (when not themselves ill) the Chartered Company's colonists. They have left a detachment of Nursing Sisters to carry on the work at Umtali.

It is probable that the Technical Education Board of the London County Council will appoint thoroughly-trained Nurses as teachers of nursing, an arrangement which will be far more satisfactory

than any attempt to appoint ladies who have been instructed by lectures only. To impart knowledge to the young or to the ignorant, facts must be presented in the most simple language, which is difficult unless the practical knowledge of the teacher is thorough.

It is marvellous how, of late years, Nursing Homes have increased in number. One seems to spring up, and another to shut, continuously, in London. All along the coast we now find these houses specially fitted and arranged for the reception of invalids. Miss ADELAIDE S. CLARK, Registered Nurse, has just taken Silverhill House, Torquay, for this purpose. The house is well-situated in its own grounds, and sheltered from the wind. The sanitary arrangements have been perfected, and the house fitted with every comfort for the care of the sick.

THE Countess of WINCHILSEA has been elected President of the Lincolnshire Rural Nursing Association, an institution which she has taken considerable pains to establish. The object is to provide trained Nurses for the sick poor in the rural districts. Since the inauguration of the movement the County Councils of Lincolnshire have offered substantial grants for the training of the Nurses appointed, and a county meeting will be held at Lincoln on November 8, at which the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire (Earl BROWNLOW) has been invited to preside, to discuss the working of the Association on a popular basis.

THE laudable ambition of this Association is "to provide trained Nurses, who will attend the sick and suffering, in every village in Lincolnshire." "The Association recognises three classes of Nurses—(1) Trained Midwives (these practitioners are seldom Nurses, and object to being classed as such). (2) Trained Surgical and Sick Nurses. (3) Nurses trained in all branches of their profession." In our opinion the third are the only class who can lay claim to the title of "Trained Nurses," and those women, who, after a few months' work in hospitals and infirmaries, undertake the cottage cleaning and family cooking—most necessary work—in the houses of the poor, and who, we hope, are to be superintended by trained Nurses in their attendance upon the sick, should be known by some other title. The Midwives should be kept strictly to attendance upon lying-in women, and, for the safety of the patient, should not be permitted to visit or attend upon persons suffering from any disease whatever.

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