

think it is at all an enviable position to take the place of a person who has filled it for ten years, and given great satisfaction. I have all the English correspondence to do for the hospital, such as sending in the notice of the patient's dismissal, and making out the account to the military department, and any other English letters that require to be written—sometimes this amounts to a good deal. The other Sisters are under me, and as the number of patients this summer has so increased, I am to be allowed two Nurses; these will have £25 a year, and their passage out, paid; after three years, they can, if leaving, be sent home to England; but should they wish to return to Alexandria, they can, after two months' holiday, do so at the hospital's expense. At night, we have a Sister on duty to superintend the wards. Up to the present time, the female ward has had a night woman in attendance and no one knows what a trial these people are; they never stay very long, and often steal a great deal—and another trouble is the sleeping. A woman we have now, who is, of course, away all day, comes at 7 at night, has her supper, and by 9.30, the Night Sister finds her comfortably sleeping on two chairs. I have pointed this out to the chief doctor, and am to be allowed to put a trained Nurse on duty always in that ward. This, I feel sure, we shall find a great improvement. In the male wards, a man is on duty for each landing, and there is a very capable one now, but at times even he will sleep on duty; he is under the Sister's superintendence, but it would be impossible to put trained Nurses in the male wards, foreigners would not think it at all the thing. In the female ward, the Sister has two Arab men who do the cleaning, and two women for the patients—one of these is such a pretty, bright, clever little woman, and able to do anything; we very often feel that many a trained English Nurse could be put to shame by her ability and cleverness. Soon after I came last year, the Khedive paid a visit to the Hospital, and inspected everything. It was his first visit since his father's death, and grand preparations were made. The Arabs thoroughly enjoyed working hard, to make everything spotless and perfect for their beloved Khedive's inspection. He expressed his entire satisfaction with all the arrangements.

The Greeks have one day in the week upon which it is extremely unlucky to make any great venture—it corresponds to our Friday. I once had an old man who, after an operation, quite made up his mind that he must die, because the operation had been done on a Tuesday. He said had it been any other day in the week, there might have been a chance for him. However, in his case it did not prove fatal, as I met him not many days ago quite well and strong. I must ask your readers to excuse this somewhat fragmentary account of our Hospital, but I lead such an active and busy life, that I seldom find time to sit down and write letters even to my friends.

AMY F. LANG.

The "NURSING RECORD" has a Larger Sale than any other Journal devoted solely to Nursing Work.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK.



WRITING of The Empress Frederick's Work for Women, in *The Woman's Herald*, the Baron von Bunsen says:—

"The life of the Empress Frederick seems to-day to have reached a new crisis. It is a life very rich in happiness, yet sorrows and misfortunes not a few have fallen to its lot as well. Her Majesty has now reached her fifty-third year, and, still in the prime of life, devotes the noblest strength of her life to systematic work, in all those stations of life where women find occupations most fitted to their needs. If I am not entirely deceived, a still deeper thought permeates this many-sided labour, namely, to prove the equal ability of men and women in all intellectual activities. To speak more practically, she seeks to give women an opportunity to gain, even in Germany, the joint possession of certain vocations which, until lately, have been practically closed to them. Accordingly, it will be the crowning reward of her labour to see the fulfilment of her life-long wish in the opening of the "Gymnasium for Women," which, it is hoped, will bring a force of academically-trained teachers to the upper classes of our high schools for girls. This veritable Richtfest, we who are accustomed to regard the efforts of this noble woman with wonder, expect to celebrate in October of this present year. In my theory of this life as a whole there arises before our eyes an ideal which has been realised, step by step, beginning with the homeliest details and pressing toward fulfilment with fixed purpose and persistent will."

He goes on to speak of her great work in connection with the higher training of Nurses in establishing the Victoria House in Berlin:—

"It was not with unfriendly rivalry to the Catholic Sisters of Charity, nor to the different evangelical associations engaged in similar work—the field is so large there is room for all—but its aim was to furnish the authorities and the public with the best results to be gained by longer preparation; and to offer to German women of good education and refined life, who might be adverse to entering a religious order, a vocation worthy of self-sacrifice, obtainable through organized effort. It is not too much to say that the Victoria House, or the Training School for Nurses, established in the course of the same year, and already working under an almost perfectly organised system, is the most successful result of these untiring activities. An immense number of cultured women, highly adapted to the vocation, have submitted themselves to the severe discipline and self-sacrifice of the Victoria Sisterhoods. And now one of the much-desired objects of its founder is to furnish a home for the Nurses who have grown old in the service, or need temporary rest, and repair of expended energies."

The Association for Domestic Sanitation is next touched upon, and was instituted:—

"In order to overcome the inherited national indifference to bad sanitary conditions of everyday life. It embraces a wide range of objects. One branch of the association, which takes charge of the Vacation Colony, has moved the interest of German citizens; and already in over eighty cities which have followed the example of Hamburg and Frankfort-on-Maine, the summer homes for sickly school children have been made national institutions. During the year 1892, as many as 28,700 school children were taken for the summer into the country air and sunshine."

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