

history which have yet to come, but we can at least claim that we have, in recent years, made real progress, and that we are able to accomplish more *positive good*, as well as to do less harm, than our predecessors of the first half of this century.

Perhaps it is true that we have less confidence in drugs; certainly we are not satisfied to rest our treatment on the use of drugs alone, but have certain knowledge that, in many cases, more can be accomplished by skilful nursing, careful dietary, hot or cold applications, baths or massage, than by the whole British Pharmacopœia with the "Extra-Pharmacopœia" added. Of these accessory agencies for combating disease, I hold effective and intelligent Nursing by far the highest. Time was (and that not very many years ago) when it was thought that any unoccupied female, with motherly sympathies, and some rudimentary knowledge of how to make a poultice, possessed all the qualifications which need be asked for in a sick Nurse. More especially did the "lone widder" commend herself to anxious relatives, for she had generally had some experience of husbands, and had nursed children through their varied ailments, or followed them prematurely to their graves,

Dickens's sketch of the associated Nurses, Mrs. Sairey Gamp and Mrs. Betsy Prig, looks so wild and bizarre a caricature to us now-a-days, that we overlook what was real in the picture, and are prone to forget that they are improbable characters to us, because the status and education of sick and monthly Nurses has so wonderfully changed for the better within the half century which has elapsed since the novelist wrote. My confidence in Mrs. Gamp, as a sketch from nature, was much increased by the assurance given me by an old friend that he himself had been ushered into the world, and his infant limbs enwrapped in the swaddling clothes appropriate to that period of his existence, by the prototype of Mrs. Gamp, the worthy lady, indeed, who (unconsciously) sat to Dickens for her portrait. Mrs. Gamp probably had not a hospital experience, but it was the proud boast of Betsy Prig that she was recommended by "Bartholomews"; and how high her ideas of sick nursing went, may be gathered from the directions she gives to Mrs. Gamp when the latter worthy comes on night duty. "Anythin' to tell me afore you goes, my dear?" added Mrs. Gamp. "The pickled salmon," Mrs. Prig replied, "is quite delicious. I can particklar recommend it. Don't have nothink to say to the cold meat, for it tastes of the stable. The drinks is all good." Mrs. Gamp expressed herself much gratified. "The physic and them things is on the drawers and mankelshelf," said Mrs. Prig, cursorily. "He took his last slime draught at seven. The easy chair aint soft enough. You'll want *his* piller."

(To be continued.)

## Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

A Meeting of the Registration Board will be held on Friday next, November 24th, at the Offices at 5 p.m.

At the Special Meeting of the Registration Board, held on Tuesday, November 14th, the acceptance of the following applications for Registration was officially confirmed, and their names have therefore been duly enrolled:—

Name	Certificate held from
Annie Amelia Barling ... (Matron, Kidderminster Infirmary).	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Clara H. Bourne ... (Matron, Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest).	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Frances J. Bradbury ...	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
Margaret Cochrane ...	Pieter Maritzburg and Volk's Hospitals, South Africa.
Mrs. Coster (Matron of St. George's Hospital).	
Mrs. Dacre Craven.	
Beatrice Cutler ...	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Harriette Dallas ...	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Clara Edith Eardley ...	Northern Hospital, Liverpool.
Katharine Elphick ... (Matron, North London Hospital for Consumption).	King's College Hospital.
Laura Heath ...	Wellington Hospital, New Zealand.
Helena Augusta Hick ...	Kensington Infirmary.
Ada Hird ...	Homœopathic Hospital.
Eliz. Hannah Hudson ...	Chelsea Infirmary, London.
Flora U. L. Jenkins ...	Lambeth Infirmary, London.
Ellen Marshall Jewson ...	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
Margaret J. de Jong ...	Royal Hospital Portsmouth.
Minnie Knight ...	Homœopathic Hospital.
Elizabeth A. Lane ...	St. John's House, Norfolk Street, London.
Evelyn Leicester ...	Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.
Effie Frances Lewis ...	Kimberley Hospital, S. Africa.
Emmie Lofts ...	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Mary Ridley Makepeace ...	London Hospital.
Jessie A. Meldrum ...	Royal Infirmary, Dundee.
Emma E. M. Perrett ...	Middlesex Hospital, London.
Ellen Mary Pizey ...	Westminster Hospital, "
Marianne Rawson ...	Leicester Infirmary and Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.
Rosamond Grace Rolleston, ...	St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Emma Russell ...	Middlesex Hospital, London.
Mary Andrew Sharpe ...	St. George's Hospital, "
Clarinda Tindry ...	Homœopathic Hospital, "
Constance C. Wells ...	St. John's House, Norfolk Street, London.
Miss Wedgwood (Matron of the Royal Free Hospital).	
Annie Delia Winnicott ...	St. George's Hospital, London.
Jessie Ann Wood ...	Royal Free Hospital, "

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