

neither influence nor authority with the patients who are their equals, and sometimes their superiors, in military rank.

A certain number of sufficiently trained men are greatly needed, who would be capable of working intelligently under the superintendence of, and with some help from, the assistant surgeons, and the Hospitals where Nursing Sisters are employed will afford excellent training centres.

But one month or even two of practical training is not sufficient to convert the average "Tommy" into an efficient and trustworthy Nurse, and it will be a thousand pities if the military authorities insist on their being returned to the ranks after a year's work and experience, when, if they are worth anything at all, they ought to have become of some value.

Finally, the subject of pay is a most important one. The total sum sanctioned at present for extra pay to be given to orderlies is so small that the largest stations in India can only be allowed sufficient to pay four annas a day to six men.

Now, here in Rawal Pindi (to give an example) there are four separate Hospitals, containing in all several hundred beds. Now, are six orderlies out of those employed, to be selected from the rest in order to be preferred above them in the matter of pay; or, if the money were to be equally divided, the sum individually received would be so small it would not be worth having. And yet, if a good class of men are to be encouraged to do the work, they must be given something to make it worth their while to do their best at it.

Money is always a serious consideration, most especially so just now with the depreciated rupee, and the scheme for training orderlies is only in its infancy, but it is earnestly to be hoped that Government may carry it out in a liberal spirit, being very sure that for nothing, nothing is to be had, and that soldiers' lives are more valuable both morally and economically than the amount of sufficient pay to the men who are willing to work in the service of their sick comrades.

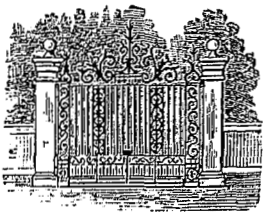
C. G. LOCH,

*Lady Superintendent I.N.S.*

Western Circle, Sept. 8th, 1894.

## — Outside the Gates. —

### WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE APPEAL.



FOR the last thirty years or more, women have been pushing, bit by bit, into municipal work, new occupations and trades. Women's Clubs, Women's Societies, Women's Colleges have sprung up on all sides. Alongside of this have been efforts repeated again and again, to obtain more and more political freedom. Barriers have been cleared away in regard to local and municipal work. A large number of these offices are either thrown open to women to become members, or at least, women are allowed to vote for candidates. But though they have tried again and again, they have not yet succeeded in

persuading Parliament that the accident of birth is no longer sufficient reason for excluding women from voting in the election of those who have to frame laws, which women as well as men are expected to obey. The National Society for Women's Suffrage, 10, Great College Street, S.W., has done downright hard work to bring about this result; but their labours have not yet attained the consummation, devoutly to be wished. Yet much has been accomplished though the parliamentary vote has not been secured. Women have been taught something of public business. The rights and wrongs of their own sex, and even some of the wrongs of the other sex too, have been re-iterated constantly till no one dares claim ignorance as an excuse for lax opinions. But since the summer of 1893 special efforts have been made to get strong evidence to lay before parliament, of the opinions of women generally as apart from their leaders. A Suffrage Appeal Committee was formed; temporary offices were taken at 47, Victoria Street, and forms were sent out in all directions for the signatures of women of all shades of political opinion who desired a vote. Much was expected from the last session of parliament when the Registration Bill was announced as an intended measure, as it was thought the subject of Women's Suffrage might be brought up in connection with it. As the session advanced, however, it became increasingly doubtful whether the Bill would reach the stage for either instruction or amendment, so that, as it is reported below, all preparations made by the Committee for direct support of the motion were necessarily held in abeyance. But, the report says, signatures will still be received by various Women's Suffrage Committees.

#### REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE APPEAL COMMITTEE.

When the plan for a General Appeal from women in favour of Women's Suffrage was brought forward in June, 1893, it was expected that the Appeal would be presented to Members of the House of Commons early in the session of 1894, as it was the intention of the Parliamentary friends of Women's Suffrage to move an amendment to include duly qualified women on the list of Parliamentary voters in the Registration Bill.

Accordingly, when notice had been given by Viscount Wolmer, M.P., and Mr. W. McLaren, M.P., to move an Instruction to that effect on the Registration Bill going into Committee, the Appeal Committee prepared a Petition to the House of Commons setting forth the nature and object of the Appeal, and signed by the members of the Committee in London, and also of the Appeal Executive in Edinburgh. It was intended that this Petition should be presented before the Instruction came forward. The Speaker gave permission that the Appeal itself should, at the same time, be placed in the Library of the House of Commons for inspection by Members.

However, as it appeared that hope of the Registration Bill reaching the stage when any Instruction or Amendment could be moved during the past session, was extremely remote, all these arrangements for dealing with the Appeal had to be put off to another session. The Appeal Committee have given up their special office at 47, Victoria Street, and will adjourn until the time comes to consult on how to proceed next year.

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