

will become an Institution from which Nurses may be sent out into private houses in any part of the county of Cumberland where they happen to be wanted, and where the people who want them are ready to pay for them; and we hope that the Committee will from the first disdain to make profit out of the Nurses' labour, and will remunerate them to the full extent possible. With such eminently just and progressive women as Mrs. HAMLET RILEY on the Committee we do not doubt that justice will be done.

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ON the 28th ult., a large number of the influential residents of Wolverhampton met at No. 7, St. Paul's Terrace, which had been taken by the Committee of the Queen Victoria Nursing Institute as a separate Home for the District Nurses. The Home has been most comfortably furnished, and will accommodate six Nurses and also a Superintendent. After the Home had been carefully inspected by the visitors, Mr. Alderman T. VINCENT JACKSON spoke of the advantages that such a Home as this would be to the sick poor of the town. For the past two years, two Nurses had been employed in the East portion of Wolverhampton, and they had paid over 19,000 visits during that time. He wished most strongly to impress upon those present, and to the town generally, that the work of the Nurses was absolutely undenominational. The Mayoress (Mrs. MANCLER) then officially declared the Home open, and spoke of the pleasure she felt in being identified with such a good work; she wished the Home every success. After other speeches had been delivered, the evening terminated socially.

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ON the occasion of her leaving the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, after having been connected with the Institution for the past seven years, the Matron, Miss BIRD, was presented with a solid silver tea service by the Nurses, a handsome travelling clock by the members of the Ladies' Committee, and a brass-mounted oak writing-desk by the servants, as a token of regard and esteem.

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A CORRESPONDENT writes from Paris:—

"There is a steadily-growing improvement in the character and capacity of Nurses in Paris Hospitals. When laïcisation was introduced about fourteen years ago, there was no body of trained or experienced women ready to fill the vacancies left by the "religieuses." Consequently, large numbers were engaged unfitted in many ways for such honorable work. A considerable percentage could neither read nor write. Wages began at twelve francs a month. At this date the lowest remuneration is twenty-nine francs a month, and a young woman desirous of entering a Hospital as "Fille de Salle," must pass an elementary examination in reading, writing, etc., and be furnished with a certificate of good character. Gratuities from patients are forbidden. The first step in promotion is that of "Première fille de Salle," and to obtain it, the "Infirmière" must have a diploma from the Free School for Nurses, which, thanks to the indefatigable energy of Dr. Bourneville, has been instituted in three different Hospitals. The next advancement, though not a "grade," is represented by the "Suppléante." She need

no longer sleep in the "dortoir," and has leave to carry her food to her own room. If she proves capable, she is promoted when a vacancy occurs to the "grade" of "Sous-Surveillante," to which is attached many small advantages. In Paris Hospitals, under the "Administration Publique," there are not any "Directeurs" or Lady Superintendents, so that the highest grade to which a Nurse can attain is that of "Surveillante," and she is then under the order of the Director and the chief of her service, medical or surgical, as the case may be. There are always a number of candidates for Nurses. They are of better education than the ordinary "fille de salle," but it is hopeless for them to make any demand without the support of a Municipal Councillor. They are called "Boursières," and have the privilege of having five hours less work a day than the "Infirmières," and of sleeping outside the Hospital during the year of their "noviciate." If found competent, they can be appointed "Sous-Surveillante" at the end of the term of probation. Only two have been nominated this year."

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A CORRESPONDENT writes:— "Had Madame ROLAND lived in 1894 instead of a century earlier, she might have applied to the word Co-operation the apostrophe she declaimed concerning Liberty. In the last year, great numbers of Nurses have been deluded into attaching themselves to institutions founded, according to advertisement, upon "co-operative principles"—a term which by no means represents co-operative practice. Having heard various complaints of one of these so-called 'Co-ops,' I paid a visit to the institution in the unassuming garb of the trained Nurse, and asked for the Superintendent. Upon admittance, I was surprised to find a young man seated before a handsome desk, who, by a lordly wave of the hand, indicated that the hireling should be seated. The hireling so disposed of her person, and asked meekly if there were any vacancies upon the Nursing staff, and what were the terms. Terms according to experience; but, owing to the high-class *clientèle* supplied by the society, only the most efficient Nurses could be admitted. No, there were no printed regulations, but for permission to place one's name upon the books, 5s. was charged, and 10s. 6d. per week—only ten and six—out of two guineas (this plaintively) was charged. Members were absolutely independent, could live away—with any one (this slyly). Ah! he forgot, there was an entrance fee—only £2 2s., a mere bagatelle, etc., etc. The hireling became pertinacious. She presumed the Superintendent was a medical man.—No.—Oh! Who then judged and guaranteed a Nurse's professional proficiency?—Oh! Ah! no testimonials were necessary; instinct (and cheek) was the only reliable judge. He felt sure that if we could come to terms, we should work in the most amicable manner, etc., etc. Nursing was no longer a high falutin' sort of an affair, but a reasonable business. 'Take a house—"co-op." was the dodge—advertise widely—sure to get calls—medical men always in a hurry—must have Nurse at once—public in a fluster—excellent results.' Hireling rose on end—presented him with a copy of the NURSING RECORD—Tableau—Exit."

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