

feet, being 19 feet long, 10 feet high from floor to roof, and 8 feet wide. It has double walls, with an intervening space of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. One end of the caravan can be dislodged to allow the vehicle being placed corridor fashion against another. Each van is thoroughly equipped for Hospital uses. Each contains two beds, but by the fitting in of one van to another quite a large field Hospital may be formed. With each van goes a tent, some of these tents being used for the Nurses and some for cooking. The cost of each vehicle is £100.

The plan is an admirable one for large scattered districts where isolation Hospitals are out of the question, either from reasons of expense or from too sparse population. If patients cannot go to the Hospital the Hospital can go to the patients, and complete isolation be ensured under pleasant and healthy conditions. In these cases, of course, the local medical men would be in charge, and local Nurses could also be employed.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Mr. Campbell Thomson, M.D., of 34, Queen Anne Street, and Miss Constance Emily Temple Frere, fourth daughter of the late Mr. R. Temple Frere, of 143, Harley Street, and late Sister at Middlesex Hospital.

THE following delightful little sketch of a day in the life of two of the Nurses belonging to the St. Patrick's Home in Dublin for supplying trained Nurses in their own homes to the sick poor, is taken from the Annual Report of the work done in 1894 :

"One more sketch may be added from Miss Dunn's report of her visit to an even more remote district—The Rosses, Co. Donegal :—

To get to it a drive of over thirty-five miles has to be taken from the nearest railway station (on an outside car) to Burton Port, from whence an open boat conveys one across the Sound to the Islands, on one of which the District Nurse was then living. We have all heard of the Black Country ; but the middle and west of Donegal may well be described as the Land of Browns and Greys. Black peat bogs and ruddy moorland, out of which rise like a crop the grey granite rocks and stones innumerable. Notwithstanding the barren appearance of the country, the population of the Dispensary District of The Rosses, or Peninsulas, numbers over 10,000 souls. In half a gale of wind, Nurse Glynn (who had been trained in District Nursing at St. Patrick's Home) and I were rowed across to the Island of Gran, in order to visit a bad case of typhoid, which had been imported there from Scotland. Very strange, yet pleasant, it was to see in this little cabin, on the heights of Aranmore, the Queen's Nurse

moving about in her neat uniform, reducing to Nursing order the little mud-floored room ; while the poor patient comprehended for the first time in his life what 'skilled Nursing' meant.

When first visited, though the morning temperature was 104°, he lay under two new pairs of blankets and a heavy woollen quilt, besides having on a couple of suits of clothes. These, of course, Nurse at once removed, but in fear and trembling, as a fatal termination to the illness would undoubtedly have been attributed to her doing so. When I saw him, however, 'Dan' seemed to have turned the corner, his temperature having been normal for three days. The gratitude of the Irish-speaking mother for Nurse's services, and her rigid adherence to all directions given her by the former was very touching ; her compunction, too, was great for having nearly 'kilt him' with 'clothes on account of not knowing the differ.' *Thus throughout the land in the cabins of the Wild West, as well as in Dublin slums, the Queen's Nurse may prove a teacher of the people, as well as one of their best friends.*

'I feel,' said a poor fellow who had met with an accident on board a vessel lying off The Rosses, as Nurse dressed his hand, 'I feel that even here I am near civilization when I see the Queen's letters on your arm!'"

The following notes of "Case 1,102" come also from the same source, and is a charming evidence of the little touches of nature a district Nurse may come in contact with in her daily life and work :

#### "CASE 1,102.—ERYSIPELAS AND BRONCHITIS.

Mrs. H., aged 55 years, sells apples at a street corner. Husband an army pensioner. Case sent in by doctor. Found patient in one of the poorest neighbourhoods, the approach to the house and stairs in the dirtiest condition ; but when the room door opened it revealed a clean and tidy apartment, and the old woman in a fairly clean and comfortable bed. She was suffering from severe erysipelas of head, throat, and ears, also bronchitis. Her temperature 105°. She was too ill to speak. It was a dangerous attack, and required much careful nursing. She was poulticed and treated according to doctor's directions, with as much comfort as possible, her devoted old husband attending to her assiduously during Nurse's absence. He was indeed called 'the Night Nurse,' and had much real work to do, as pain rendered her sleepless for many nights. In ten days' time she began to amend. When convalescing, she was most amusing, and took great pleasure in allowing Nurse to inspect her neatly kept holiday apparel, of the most cheerful colouring. Having met one of the other Nurses at a case in the same street, she was never tired of talking of her supposed perfections, ending with : 'When *she* dies, the gates of heaven will be thrown wide open, and all she'll have to do will be to step in.' The husband listened to this several times, then retorted, 'But, Mary, your own Nurse will be jealous, why don't you speak of *her*?' 'Jem,' she replied solemnly, 'I don't speak of *her* afore her face.' When the superintendent visited her, she remarked a dress, most carefully pinned up in newspapers, hanging against the wall ; could just see the bright plaid with velvet

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