

Appointments.

MISS BEATRICE SISLEY has been appointed Assistant Matron to the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, Bromley, Middlesex. Miss Sisley was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, from 1884 to 1888; was charge Nurse at the Belvedere Fever Hospital, Glasgow, from 1889-90; Night Superintendent at the Great Northern Hospital from 1890-91; and Sister at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, from 1892 to 1895, in all of which positions Miss Sisley has earned for herself a high professional reputation.

The Nursing Branch of Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

At the Annual Meeting of this admirable Association, the Duchess of Teck presiding, a most satisfactory account of the work done through the year was presented. The Nursing Branch is that which is of special interest to our readers.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir J. E. Commerell, in speaking of the work accomplished, said: "I do not consider that there is any charity which is more important, not only to the two Services but to society in general, than this excellent charity. I believe myself, first of all, that to Colonel Gildea's efforts the Association owes its chief success. The second point is the question of the Nursing Branch of the Association. I remember the day when in our hospitals the men used to be attended by old soldiers and sailors. The old soldiers and sailors used to go to sleep when they ought to have been attending to their patients, and they were left sometimes to die unattended when medicine or stimulants given in time would have saved life. But the attendants went to sleep, the medicine was not given, and I am sorry to say the stimulants did not go where they ought to have done."

"I was visiting in a hospital only a few days ago a man who had had his hand blown off by accident, and while I was there a lady came in to give him his tea, and every single thing appeared so entirely changed from the old days. Everything neat and clean, flowers decking the room, pictures to look at, that when she was gone I said: 'Well, Hewlett, what do you think of this?' 'Ah, sir,' he said, 'I have been in a foreign hospital and now see the difference here; there is a woman who is like an angel to us here. She appears to anticipate all our wants and desires and is kindness itself.'"

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."



MADAM,—As you are aware, I am one of the earliest members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and much as I dislike publicity I feel I must say how very much I regret that it should even be *thought* advisable to sweep off from our General Council the founders of our Association! In the first place it seems an unwise step, for surely those who have been our leaders for so many years must be better guides than those new members, some of whom one has scarcely even heard of, whilst others belong to Hospitals at such a great distance as to make their attendance at meetings an impossibility. In the second place, is it just or fair to put aside (unless it be at their own request) those who have, so bravely, through so much opposition, borne the burden and heat of the day? If their removal is for the *good* of the Corporation, surely those who do not understand should have some explanation *why* it is considered so! If it is not for its good, why then remove them? Although I am seldom able to attend the meetings of the Council, I have from the first taken the keenest interest in the affairs of the Corporation, and have always been grateful to those who have founded it. I feel that it is largely due to it that my great desire has at last been accomplished, and a three years' training established in this Hospital.

Before I close I must say I shall never cease to be grateful to our President for the indefatigable way she has worked for us. I am quite sure without her constant help we should still have been Charterless.

I remain, Madam,

Yours faithfully,

MARY NEWCOMBE CURETON,

Member of the General Council R.B.N.A.
Matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I venture to write to you as an early member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and Superintendent of one of the largest Nurses' Homes in England, to protest against the proposed change in our Council. If the names of our founders are removed, I can assure you that we country members will have very little confidence in the Association. I trust every member will follow Miss Poole's advice, and put their names on the voting paper, so showing them that we are glad to trust the future of our profession in their hands.

Yours sincerely,

MARY SHIRLEY,

Lady Superintendent, Nurses' Institute,
Stoke-on-Trent.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—After reading the admirable letters printed in the RECORD in the two last issues, it seems almost superfluous to add to their number, as no

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