

and eleven Nurses followed her example. There was not a hitch. Everything was managed with the utmost order and precision. Not even a stray coin rolled on the pavement in the difficult task of pouring the contents of the plates into the alms' dish.

And how quiet were the footsteps of the Nurses, in contradistinction to the clatter of men's boots which we usually hear in Churches during collection times! That easy quiet comes from ward training, too, and is a thing which many outside Hospitals would do well to cultivate.

The powers of endurance of some of the Nurses had been tested the day before, when they stood for hours in the burning sun at New Cross Gate, holding out boxes to the passers by. If Hospital training thus produces adaptability, order, gentle quiet, and strength to endure, we could wish that every woman might have it.

At a meeting of the Governors of the Wandsworth and Clapham Infirmary, on Thursday, it was stated that the Assistant Nurses there are underpaid, badly housed, and over-worked. In fourteen months there had been forty resignations.

It is hoped that all further troubles will be avoided at the Liverpool Ladies' Charity and Lying-in Hospital by the recognition—though somewhat tardy—on the part of the Board that the general control in medical matters should be in the hands of the Medical Staff. The position the Board took up was a perfectly untenable one, and we congratulate them on their good sense in crying *peccavi!*

The Nurses at Addenbrooke's Hospital are delighted with their new Home, which is a welcome change from the old state of things, when day and night Nurses, by the well-known Box and Cox process, occupied the same beds in rooms which were conspicuously deficient in light and air. In the new three-storey building there are 38 sunny and bright bedrooms, the top flat being reserved for those on night duty, who are thus not subject to any disturbance. To render the rooms as quiet as possible, the surfaces of all the corridor floors are made of block pitch pine. Electric light is turned on, and there are six bath-rooms.

It seems as if the Nurses could not desire more, but, in addition there is a little building known as the "Paradise," which is a temporary Hospital for sick Nurses. This room, accommodating six patients, was almost entirely furnished by the Nurses themselves. For a long time the poor "Home" accommodation for the Nurses at Addenbrooke's has been much commented on, and was a matter of great concern to Miss Cureton, the considerate and progressive Matron. As, since the year 1877, when the late Miss Alice Fisher inaugurated the system of

paying Probationers, the sum of £13,000 has been received in fees, it seems right that the Nursing Staff should be properly housed.

It is gratifying to know that the Philadelphians still so highly honour the work done by Miss Fisher in rendering the Blockley Hospital a credit to the State. The Alumnæ Society of Blockley Hospital—and most of the leading American Training Schools form these valuable Associations of Nurses—is named the Alice Fisher Alumnæ, so that the memory of her and her great work in Philadelphia will be handed down to countless generations of Nurses trained at the excellent School she founded.

THE Committee of the Sarah Acland Nursing Home at Oxford are to be much congratulated on the endowment in the Home of the "Rose Room," where board, lodging, and nursing, free of cost, are offered to women earning their own living, either as governesses or teachers, or to women students preparing for professions, and also to ladies of small means unable to obtain suitable care and nursing during illness. Applications for reception into the room should be addressed to "Rose," care of the Lady Superintendent of the Home.

THERE has been trouble at the Bromsgrove Workhouse Infirmary, arising, as it appears, from the efforts of Miss Ellen Bumstead, the recently appointed Charge Nurse, to effect reforms. At an enquiry, Dr. Kidd, the medical officer, attended, and said with respect to the complaints against the Nurse, there had been a deal of difficulty and trouble since the last change of Nurses. He was strongly of opinion that it was not the fault of the Nurse, but was because she carried out her duties more strictly than the inmates had been accustomed to. She had made considerable improvements in the management of the Infirmary and the surgery. If she was supported by the Board they would not regret it.

Miss Bumstead has addressed the following letter to the *Bromsgrove, Droitwich and Redditch Weekly Messenger* :—

"SIR,—In justice to me as the 'Workuss Nuss' I feel sure you will insert this letter in your paper this week. I am afraid it has gone forth to the public that I am 'unkind' and 'cruel,' and I cannot allow such a notion to be circulated without an emphatic denial. You see, when I came here, rather more than three months ago, I found the rooms dirty, the patients' linen in rags, and the patients disorderly and uncivil. Having had nearly ten years' experience in this special kind of work, I set to work with all my strength to improve matters generally, and I have so far succeeded that to-day I can say that the rooms are beautifully clean, whitewashed, and painted. The linen has been renewed or mended, and the patients are orderly and

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)