

States, and was returning to her home in Ireland last week. But when she arrived at Merville she was, at the instance of the American authorities, arrested on suspicion of having been implicated in a jewel robbery in Massachusetts. She was not detained, as there was not the slightest justification for the suspicion. It was a terrible home-coming for her, and much sympathy has been expressed for the position in which she was placed.

THE chapel of the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin is an exquisite specimen of Italian workmanship. The texts, which are shown in gold lettering on crimson band scrolls, are most appropriate to a Maternity Hospital: "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise." "The children have been brought to the birth, but there is not strength to bring them forth." "Kings shall be their nursing fathers, and queens their nursing mothers." "Our sons shall grow up as the young plants, and our daughters shall be as the polished corners of the temple."

The Rotunda chapel has been recently entirely re-decorated, and has consequently been closed, but was re-opened on the 1st November with a special Service and choir. There was a very large gathering to see the improvements and added beauties of the already beautiful chapel.

NURSES in the Bombay Hospitals are beginning to think their hours are much too long, and that they should have more time "off duty." The Cama Hospital appears to be the only one of the Bombay Hospitals which grants the Nurses a day off once a month. The European General Hospital used to do so, but has discontinued the privilege. The hours in all the Bombay Hospitals are unconscionably long, and the times off duty hardly worth taking.

In such a climate as that of India, in every department of labour special latitude should be allowed, so far as length of labour, day, and leisure times are concerned, but, as a very high official in India remarked recently to the writer: "If English men under Government were asked to do the work in England which we in India do, in spite of the terrible climatic conditions, there would be a general strike among them, were they Judges, Cabinet Ministers, or War Office officials!"

THE *Daily Mail* somewhat tragically says in an article on the Hospital Nurse: "Take my word for it, a Nurse's career is very, very hard. Statistics prove that but few of these, our good and devoted angels of mercy, live beyond, if up to, middle age. The life of them is sapped

away as the result of the anxiety, the close attention, and the self-repression needed in the struggle with dread disease and the arch-fighter Death." We wonder if the depression induced by the statement that very few of us live to "middle age" is counteracted by the knowledge that, even in this life, we are "good and devoted angels of mercy?"

"A SOCIABLE WOMAN" writes:

"I have often been struck with the small amount of sympathy existing between Hospital and Hospital, and Training-school with Training-school, and I think this isolation is a great disadvantage to individual Nurses, and to the profession generally. I am, at present, training in a large London Hospital, and the feeling of most of us is to regard other Metropolitan Hospitals with mixed feelings of rivalry and apathy. As a matter of fact, we know very little of any Institutions but our own; we know hardly anything of the system of training or advantages; we hardly recognise one another's uniforms; and I think it is a very great pity. And the remedy appears so easy. Would it not be possible, when we are giving entertainments of different kinds, and when we have little celebrations at Christmas and at other festive times, to send invitations to some of the Nurses at other Hospitals. Of course, if some of us who are getting up entertainments, &c., happen to have friends who are on the nursing staff of other Institutions, we do often invite them, but that is not what I mean. What I suggest is, for instance, that if St. Bartholomew's Hospital is giving an entertainment, or has a "Grand Day" or any other function "on," would it not be a graceful thing to send an invitation to the Matron, and perhaps five of the nursing staff of the principal Training-schools in London, to give them a hearty welcome, and aim at establishing a sympathetic chain of communion between the nursing profession generally. I feel quite sure that nice little social amenities of this kind would not only make the lives of Hospital workers infinitely more interesting and pleasant, but it would have a professional value, inasmuch as it is impossible for workers to come together without adding considerably to the knowledge of each other. Nurses would learn what was going on in the wards of other Hospitals, and would understand better the ethics and ideals of the workers of her class. Sisters would get much information and useful "tips" as to the training and management of their staffs, and Matrons, by comparing their own with the systems of other Hospitals, would add much to their powers of organisation and desire for reform. Would not this be a delightful way of obviating "Matron's chronic"—a disease that is certainly with us, and needs to be combated. We Nurses tend too much to get into ruts and grooves. Here is a charming way in which we can escape such a danger."

We are quite in sympathy with the opinions of "A Sociable Woman," and wish she could have been present at "Sister Marion's" delightful gathering of colleagues and friends to celebrate her twenty years' of devoted service at the London Homœopathic Hospital; she would there have thoroughly enjoyed the "social amenities."

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