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Editorial.

THE INDIAN NURSING SERVICE.

HE conditions under which English gentlewomen work in the military hospitals in India have recently been the subject of considerable comment throughout that great Dependency. In the main, it is admitted that the experiment, which practically owes its origin to the far-seeing and devoted efforts of Lady Roberts, has proved to be of the greatest advantage to English soldiers, laid low by illness in that far-off land. Formerly, the discomforts, not to say the dangers, of such illness were intensified beyond measure by the ignorance and incapacity of the hospital attendants; and it is indisputable that the order and cleanliness which were practically introduced into English hospitals by gentlewomen, were largely advanced in Indian military centres when such workers were placed there in charge of the Nursing of the sick.

There are two points to which attention has chiefly been devoted—the first being that at present no pension is given to Nurses who serve even for long periods of time in the Indian army. After ten years' service, a gratuity of about £200 is given to those who have acted as Lady Superintendents, and of £75 to Nursing Sisters. But it is pointed previous page next page