

when the patient is convalescent, the nurse has some leisure time on her hands, and finds that no objection is felt, in the house, to her cycling, we see no reason why she should not send for, or hire a bicycle; but to *appear* with one is to be wanting in perception and discrimination, and produces a bad impression at the outset. It is indiscretions such as those which we have quoted, which cause objections to be raised, with justice, to a pastime which is, in itself, absolutely legitimate.

HEALTH MISSIONERS FOR RURAL INDIA.

ANYTHING from the pen of Miss Florence Nightingale possesses much interest for all members of the nursing profession, and is received by them with the respect which is due to her personality. Miss Nightingale, some time since, contributed a paper to *India* upon the subject of improving Indian sanitation. The events of the last six months have proved how urgent the need is, and how wise Miss Nightingale's suggestions were. She advocated the organisation of simple and popular lectures on health, to show the villagers the need of (a) a pure water supply, (b) the removal of refuse, (c) the diminution of over-crowding. She suggested that these lectures should be given from village to village by men well versed in the principles of sanitation themselves, knowing the habits of the people, and able to sympathise with them and help them, without offending their prejudices. She instances the work done by a sanitary officer in India, who, when he came into office, found the rural people sacrificing at the shrines of the goddesses of Small-pox and Cholera, and tells that, long before he left the neighbourhood, if there had been four or five deaths from cholera, the people came to him, and said, "Sahib, bestir yourself; don't you see we're all dead."

Miss Nightingale is in touch with influential natives who are desirous of obtaining the benefits which a greater knowledge of sanitary science would bring to their fellow-countrymen. She never loses an opportunity of urging those so interested to make a beginning, however small.

It is proposed to raise a fund towards the necessary expenses of the work which it is hoped to inaugurate in the Bombay Presidency under Mr. B. M. Malabari. We trust the scheme will receive the support it deserves.

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A Guarantee of Purity.

Trained Nursing for People with Moderate Incomes.*

BY DIANA C. KIMBER.

(Continued from page 275.)

So much for the work in Rochester. From New Haven I have received the following:—

MY DEAR MISS KIMBER,—Please excuse the delay in answering your letter of December 22nd. Before answering your questions, let me say a few words about the work in general. The people are slow to understand the meaning of the words "visiting nurse" or "district nursing," or to take up any new thing, and my work has been so irregular, that I am afraid I cannot give you a clear understanding of it. I sent out my circulars about the 1st of September. My first call came September 14th. To answer your questions: How many calls have you made? In four months one hundred and fifty. Nature of calls? Massage, night work, surgical dressings. What class of people? First and second class. How much earned a month or week? Average first month 6 dols. a week, average now 15 dols. a week. Do the doctors approve? The doctors approve, but have not given it much thought. Is there much need for this kind of nursing? At present there is not much need of such work, but it will grow; the need will grow when the work shall be more generally known. How did I start? I sent out 150 circulars to doctors, former patients and friends, called on a good many doctors; all thought it a good idea; advertised in home paper. I send my circular. Hoping this may not be too late to be of use,

I am,
 Yours sincerely,
 M. E. C.

The circular runs as follows:—

DISTRICT NURSING.

We believe that if a man cannot have a trained nurse every moment of the time, he will be glad to have one part of the time.—*Trained Nurse*, 1895.

Having taken up district nursing, I am prepared to attend patients who need a nurse's care for one or more hours a day.

Baths, massage, surgical dressings. To assist doctors when needed. Ready for any call.
 Name and address,

From Buffalo a nurse writes:—

MY DEAR MISS KIMBER,—Yours of recent date is received. To my regret I have no report for you. I was interested in your article. The plan seemed feasible, and I felt a desire to give the work a trial. In September I made a slight beginning, viz., called on about a dozen physicians and presented the plan, meeting with encouragement from all. I was then suddenly called out of the city by the illness of a friend, and have but just returned. There are two nurses, however, who have been doing something in that line during my absence. I have not seen, them to talk it over, but hear that *they have succeeded*.

* Paper read at Superintendents' Convention, Baltimore, February, 1897.

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