

The condition of the funds of the Association seems to be one of phenomenal prosperity. "It was decided not to call upon members this year for their subscriptions, as no expenses would be incurred except in the purchase of the before-named tickets, the balance in hand being sufficient for the purpose."

AN article in the *Queen* on "Cycles for District Nurses," advises the district nurse to acquaint herself with the working of her machine, so as to be able to attend to any small repairs herself. In it, leather linings for cycling skirts are condemned, as after they have once become rubbed and torn they are stated to be fearfully dangerous. The writer recommends a rough serge or Irish friese skirt, not more than two and a half yards round the bottom, turned up for seven inches, and then run round with half inch rows of stitching, as the most suitable skirt for district nurses, and one which has stood the test of practical experience. Gaiters are also recommended as a valuable and comfortable addition to the costume of a cycling district nurse.

WE hear that a bicycle is at present on the high seas on its way to the nurses of the Universities Mission at Zanzibar. The bicycle is a gift to the nursing staff from a former member of the Mission, often a patient in the hospital, who we may suppose, from the gratitude he expresses for the care received there, and from his high appreciation of the work done by the nursing staff, does not regard the services of trained nurses in the same light as does Lady Priestley, or entertain the same opinion of their personal character as this lady.

AN admirer of America writes:

"One word on the training of Nurses in America. Lady Priestley quotes in support of a shorter, and in consequence a less thorough and cheaper training, the curriculum in force at the Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore. She says: 'the full term of training of Nurses is two years. They are taught invalid cookery, and are thus qualified for every kind of Nursing, even in the most out-of-the-way parts of the earth.'

As you announced in the RECORD some months ago, the term of training at the Johns Hopkins Hospital has been raised to three years, in conjunction with an eight hours' day, a system which is being watched with eager interest by Nurses all over the world.

The three years' term was adopted at the great Illinois Training School in Chicago in 1894, and the more important Schools in America are one after another adopting the three years' term of training. Indeed, it will not do to cite the curriculum of education in American Schools as an argument for a retrograde step in England, as the teaching in the States and Canada is becoming every day more thorough and complete, and if you fail to progress will speedily leave

you in the rear in nursing matters the only victims of *Nurses à la Mode*."

THE Trained Nurses' United Aid Society of America, which has already been joined by upwards of 6,000 Nurses, has an eminently practical programme, much on the lines of that advocated by the founders of the Royal British Nurses' Association, but which unfortunately they have been prevented carrying into effect by the *non-possimus* attitude of those who are entirely out of touch and sympathy with trained nurses' needs and ambitions. The objects of the American Society are the relief of members who are disabled by illness or accident, and in the case of death the payment of funeral expenses. It is also proposed to establish homes of rest, endowed hospital beds, and pensions.

THE inquiry into the management of the Adelaide Hospital, South Australia, has caused an immense sensation. The celebrated Nurse Graham is reported to have said that it was not out of friendship for her that the Government had taken her side, and that she was fully aware that she had been made a "political football."

To start a convalescent patient on a journey homewards from an English hospital is a comparatively easy matter, but to send off an invalid or a convalescing patient who has been ordered home from the East, is a very different thing. In this case a nurse very often accompanies the patient at least part of the way, and the "kit" of the former includes oranges, lemons, champagne, brandy, Brand's essence, and other luxuries unattainable, or very expensive, on board ship. In addition to these a *goat* is usually a member of the party, and those who have nursed at sea will understand the boon it is to be able to obtain fresh milk for a patient. The end of the goat is tragic, for she is generally presented to the butcher at the termination of the voyage as compensation for his care of her on the journey. Poor Nannie! she deserves a better fate; but what can be done with her? for it would be impossible to include her in an overland party, and a journey across country from Marseilles or Brindisi is generally the conclusion to the voyage of an invalid returning home from the tropics.

IN South Africa the railway companies accord to nurses and teachers the privilege of travelling over their lines at half fare. We are sure that trained nurses in Great Britain would appreciate a like liberal arrangement made on their behalf by the railway companies of this country. Under present conditions the rules

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