

should not be able to obtain the services of a reliable nurse. Perhaps it has not advertised in the columns of the NURSING RECORD!

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THE parish of Springfield, Essex, is losing its parish nurse, and various reasons are suggested as to the action of the Committee of Management in giving her notice. A contemporary states that:—

"Some time back the Committee wrote to the nurse informing her that in view of the amount of work being done, and the money at their disposal, they were reluctantly obliged to ask her to seek another situation. They added that they 'could not overlook the expressed wish of the people to have a nurse of the cottage class,' and that, therefore, the present holder of the office was to a certain extent wasted upon them. The Committee, however, would one and all be extremely sorry to part with the nurse, whose very great success in a number of cases they fully appreciated."

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The nurse (Miss Bunnell), on the contrary, said to a representative of our contemporary:—

"That there was no desire among the poor for a nurse of the cottage class. On the contrary, she said that those to whom she has bade good-bye have expressed great surprise and regret at her departure. She added: 'I have on several occasions scrubbed out rooms for the comfort of the patients, and I don't think a cottage nurse could do much more than I have done. I do not consider that the reasons given for me to go are satisfactory. I am inclined to believe that the Committee have been led to adopt the course they have done in consequence of the false statements made by a few in the parish who are unkindly disposed towards me for reasons which I cannot understand. My salary in the place to which I am going will be £12 a year more than I receive in Springfield, and I shall be provided with a bicycle in order that I may more easily move about among my patients.'"

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The secretary to the Committee, Miss Mary Holgate, also made a statement to the effect that:—

"The nurse was popular among the poor, and that if there was any dissatisfaction it was among some few who thought they knew how nursing should be carried on. In some of the outlying districts, perhaps, a woman who could help in the house would be more acceptable."

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Miss Bunnell has been appointed nurse to the Little Sutton and Childer Thornton Nursing Society, Chester. A report of this institution states:—

"Nurse Bunnell comes to us with excellent recommendations from the medical men of Chelmsford and from the Committee of the Nursing Society of Springfield, where she has been district nurse for nearly two years. Before that she was for two years under Sister Catherine Twining, at the Maternity Nurses' Home, Plaistow."

Are we to understand from this that Miss Bunnell has only received maternity training?

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MISS DUNN, Superintendent for Ireland of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, recently addressed a public meeting in the Albert Hall, Carrickfergus, on district nursing, and the advantages to be gained by affiliating with the Jubilee Institute. It has been decided to provide a nurse for the sick poor of Carrickfergus as a suitable commemoration of the Queen's reign, and the point to be settled was whether or no Carrickfergus should affiliate with the Jubilee Institute, or have its own district nursing society. It was proposed by Mr. Brice Smith, seconded by Mr. John Kelly, and we understand ultimately decided, to affiliate with the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute.

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WE learn from the *Irish Times* that Miss Macalister and Miss Kenny, two nurses belonging to the City of Dublin Institution, have quite recovered from the typhus fever which they contracted while nursing in an epidemic of this disease at Inniskea (a small island off the west coast of Co. Mayo). Our contemporary is enthusiastic in its praise of the work done by these nurses. It says:

"It is but right to state that Miss Macalister and Miss Kenny exerted themselves to the utmost when the fever was at the worst. The greatest number of cases, about eighteen, had to be attended to by them without any assistance. They denied themselves the ordinary necessaries of life to make the unfortunate patients comfortable. At that time they had no steamer to carry over nourishment or other requisites. If the weather was bad they had to wait for days without proper food. They worked very hard and were themselves stricken down with typhus. It would certainly not be too much if the Government that was so assisted by them in its responsibilities recognised such self-sacrifice, in an emergency of the kind, by conferring upon them a cross or medal of some due significance. They most fully deserve such a recognition and reward. The officers of the Local Government Board and the medical men know well how much praise should be given to those ladies."

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A CORRESPONDENT writing to the same paper, says:—

"Your suggestion that the Government should present a cross or a medal to each of these ladies is a good one. This, at least, I suppose, will be done; but, in the meantime, what is a grateful public—if there be a grateful public—going to do to show admiration for such heroic action.

The Victoria Cross hero holds his medal 'For Valour'—often displayed under the influence of sudden excitement. These nurses are braver; for they, in a cool, premeditated manner, faced death in a successful attempt to save the lives of some of the most afflicted of our fellow-creatures.

Surely such heroism should not be allowed to pass without some mark of public recognition."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)