

'mere" Sister in Charge under a medical superintendent can enforce good discipline amongst a nursing community, and no discipline means bad nursing. We hope that the Committee of the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, will reconsider this arrangement at an early date, and place the head of the nursing department in a responsible position, in which alone, she can perform her duty in a satisfactory manner.

Appointments Abroad.

It may interest readers of this Journal to know that the four Nurses who joined the first contingent sent forward for service in the Klondike have been appointed. The names of these ladies are as follows:—Miss Powell, from Nova Scotia, who is to act as District Lady Superintendent; Miss Payson, from New Brunswick; Miss Hannah, from Toronto, and Miss Scott, who came out from England some years ago, and who has since been nursing in or near Toronto. All are highly competent in their profession, and possess first rate testimonials from leading physicians under whom they have worked. They have had varied experience, extending over several years, are endued with good health, and go forth full of enthusiasm for the mission of relief to suffering humanity to which they are devoting themselves. The Chief Superintendent, Miss Macleod, prepared the outfits, supplies, medical and nursing provisions, etc., under the supervision of the Provisional Committee, and with the advice of those who possess personal knowledge of what is necessary. The Roman Catholics have already built a hospital at Dawson City, and sent nursing sisters to tend the sick there last year. These ladies have been detained on their way by ice jams, and have wintered at a little Indian mission. But they will proceed this spring, and thus Dawson will be in a measure supplied.

A MODEL HOSPITAL SHIP.

THE model hospital-ship, the *Solace*, which is said to be the finest vessel of her type in the world, is at Key West. The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent says she is of 3,800 tons, with the speed of a cruiser, making seventeen knots, and will sail under the flag of the Red Cross, and it is not believed that she will be even threatened by the enemy. The *Solace* is fitted up with bunks for the wounded, operating-rooms, convalescing-rooms, and apartments for the dead and the dying. Steam launches are carried aboard her to be used at the time of or after action to gather in the wounded. She is provided with a laundry, disinfecting machines, and all the appliances of modern antiseptic surgery. Aboard the *Solace* are two crews, one to sail her, the other a crew of nurses. This departure constitutes an innovation in naval warfare.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

THE RECREATIONS OF WORKING WOMEN.



A PAPER upon this subject was read by Miss Georgina Scott, late matron of the Sussex County Hospital, at the last sessional meeting of the season of the Royal British Nurses' Association, at the Medical Society's rooms, on Friday, 22nd ult. It is significant of the pitiable condition to which the

present honorary officers have reduced this once honoured association that the room was practically empty, and that with the exception of Mrs. Coster, the new nurse Hon. Secretary, no one of importance in the nursing world was present.

The chair was taken by Miss Katherine Elphick, matron of the North London Hospital for Consumption, Hampstead, and there were present in the room, besides two reporters, the secretary of the association, a former secretary and assistant-secretary, and nine other persons.

Miss Scott must, we think, have found it somewhat dreary to address a carefully prepared paper to a room full of empty chairs. The men who have alienated the sympathies of the nurse members of the Association, who in former days supported it, were conspicuous by their absence, and as medical men of repute have long since ceased to take an interest in the affairs of the Association, there was not a man present. It is significant of the present condition, that the vote of thanks to the chairwoman was proposed by Miss Ravenhill, and that to Miss Scott, by Miss Foggo Thomson. Never was "Ichabod" written more plainly on any undertaking. Will the Hon. Officers ever take the advice plainly expressed by medical men of high standing, and "let the nurses manage their own affairs"? Until then, the present lack of interest will continue to prevail.

Sketches.

NURSING UNDER THE POOR LAW.—ENGLAND.

Nurse to Matron (bursting into her sitting-room):—"I 'ear as 'ow you have said as I am a most disobliging woman."

Matron:—"I feel sure, nurse, you will believe me when I tell you I said no such thing."

Nurse:—"I shan't believe yer, I'd rather believe them as told it me—and let me tell yer, liars should 'av good memories."

Matron:—"Nurse, I cannot permit you to speak to me like that in my own room."

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