

lasted about five minutes, the prisoner kicked Nurse Turner, saying that she did not mind doing a month for her. She was committed for seven day's hard labour. No one will say the sentence was too severe. But who is the most blameworthy, a patient who assaults a nurse, or a nurse who assaults a patient?

## Appointments.

### MATRONS.

MISS W. E. BLAND has been appointed Matron of the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester. Miss Bland received her training at the Sheffield General Infirmary and Sheffield Nurses' Home, and was afterwards elected Matron of the Beverley Hospital and Dispensary. Miss Bland at present holds the position of Lady Superintendent of the Hull Municipal Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

MISS EMILY ERSKINE has been appointed Matron of the Fever Hospital, Darwen. Miss Erskine was trained at the Edinburgh Children's Hospital, and at the Leicester Infirmary; after completing her training, she was for some time engaged in private nursing, at home and abroad. For the last three-and-a-half years she has held the position of District Nurse at Darwen.

MISS ISABEL MACKENZIE MACDONALD has been appointed Matron of the Walmersley House Hospital for Incurables, near Bury. Miss Macdonald was trained at Longmore Hospital, Edinburgh, and subsequently acted as Night Superintendent of the City Hospital in the same city. She has for the last five years held the position of Ward Sister of the Walmersley House Hospital.

MISS MULHOLLAND has been appointed Matron of the Bathurst District Hospital, New South Wales. Miss Mulholland was trained at the Sydney Hospital, and was selected to the responsible position of Matron of the Bathurst Hospital out of twenty-two applicants.

### ASSISTANT MATRON.

MISS ALICE ELIZABETH LITTLE has been appointed Assistant Matron of St. Olave's Union Infirmary, Rotherhithe. Miss Little received her training at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and has held the positions of Ward Sister at the Paddington Infirmary, Night Superintendent at St. Saviour's Union Infirmary, and Assistant Matron at the Kent County Asylum.

### HEAD NURSE.

MISS E. F. NEVE has been elected Head Nurse and housekeeper of the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Miss Neve received her training at the London Hospital, and has since held the appointment of Nurse-Matron at the Enfield Cottage Hospital.

## Fighting the Plague.

AN interesting article has been contributed by Dr. Marion Hunter to the *Nineteenth Century Magazine* giving an account of some of her experiences during her stay in India. Dr. Hunter acted as assistant to Dr. Lloyd Jones at the Poona Plague Hospital during the second epidemic.

Dr. Hunter says that there was considerable prejudice among the natives against the hospital, many of them being of opinion that the doctors and nurses had been specially commissioned by the Queen in order to entice or force them into hospital for the purpose of killing them, in order to stamp out the plague. To reassure them, it was arranged that each patient might bring in one friend, to stay during his detention in hospital; this was so that the friends might see the methods of treatment adopted. The friends squatted on the ward floor, watching all that went on; the arrival of the doctors was a signal for increased vigilance, all got up and went from ward to ward with an air of assumed indifference, scrutinizing all that was done for each patient. This was permitted for a few days, in order to reassure them, but it had, of course, to be stopped. It was most picturesque to see the crowd of natives strolling after the doctors and nurses; but it was, at the same time, pathetic to realise how little able they were to grasp the idea that the Government wished to help them. They spared no pains to circumvent any order of which they disapproved. To some lines of treatment, notably hot or cold packs, they had a rooted objection, and nothing could persuade them that good might result from such treatment.

Many curious and pathetic scenes were enacted in the hospital. One day, on entering a female ward, a fat brown baby was noticed sitting astride its mother, who was suffering from plague; the child was apparently very happy and busy. On approaching the bedside, it was found to be engaged in eating the linseed-meal poultice from its mother's chest, and evidently enjoying it! The child did not take plague. When the hospital staff had gained the confidence of the natives, the reaction in their favour was just as strong as the previous opposition had been, and it was no unusual sight to see a poor mother fall at a doctor's feet, with a request, as to a god, "Soon to recover my child," the poor child, perhaps, being already in a moribund condition. They were very grateful for kindness to their sick, and showed it by presents of flowers and fruit; the greatest mark of favour was to offer to live in the doctor's bungalow. Early in the epidemic, mothers would take babies and children (previously quite well) into the plague wards; but two or three of these children having developed plague, and died off in a few hours, a separate ward for "healthy babies" was

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