

Strangers' Hospital, Rio Janeiro.

THE following ladies have now been appointed to fill the vacancies on the staff at the Strangers' Hospital, Rio de Janeiro, and leave England for Rio next month:—Miss Florence M. Skerman, Miss Margaret Milne, Miss Emily Hutchinson, and Miss Jeanie Scott Alison.

Miss Skerman, who is at present Assistant Matron at the Metropolitan Convalescent Home, Broadstairs, was trained at Guy's Hospital, and holds a three years' certificate. She was one of the sisters sent out to Greece by the *Daily Chronicle* National Fund, and did much excellent work during the Græco-Turkish War, after which she acted, for a time, as Night Superintendent at Gore Farm Hospital, Dartford.

Miss Margaret Milne holds a certificate of three years' training from the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and has since had experience which will now be valuable to her in the Anglo-German Hospital, Rosario, and the British Hospital, Monte Video. Miss Milne is at present Night Superintendent at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

Miss Hutchinson and Miss Alison are at present Sisters at the Lewisham Infirmary. Miss Hutchinson was trained at the Manchester Royal Infirmary, and holds the three years' certificate of that institution, and Miss Alison holds the certificate of the Royal South Hants Infirmary, for two years' training; for three years she acted as Staff Nurse at the Lewisham Infirmary, and was last year promoted to a Sister's post.

The uniforms, which are grey in colour, are being supplied by Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, of Wignore Street.

Appointments.

MATRON.

MISS MABEL CAVE, who last autumn was appointed Matron of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, in the place of Miss Kingsford—for whom she had been acting as *locum tenens*—has been appointed Lady Superintendent of Nursing, and Matron of the Westminster Hospital. Miss Cave was trained at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, and her experience as Matron of the Metropolitan Hospital, during the past year, will doubtless be of much use to her in her new position. We are sorry for the Committee of the Metropolitan Hospital, in having so soon to find another Matron, as constant changes in this department are most trying, and certainly not for the well-being of the Institution. As a rule when an important position, such as that of a Matron, is accepted, it is understood that, in absence of unavoidable reasons to the contrary, it will be retained for a reasonable time.

NURSE-MATRON.

MISS M. BARWICK was elected Nurse-Matron of the Pembrokeshire and Haverfordwest Infirmary, on August 12th, 1898. She was trained at the General Infirmary, Leeds, and her subsequent appointments have been as follows:—Sister-in-Charge of 54 beds and operating theatre, at the Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury; Night Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen; Matron of Kincarrathie Private Hospital for the Insane, Perth; Matron of Bridgend Cottage Hospital, and Matron of Llanelly Hospital.

News from the States.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

THE accounts which continue to come to hand of the lack of organization and provision for the nursing of the sick and wounded are deplorable. It is satisfactory that a bright spot is the work done by the Red Cross Society. However, from the statement of Dr. A. M. Lesser, the Red Cross physician, who returned to the States on board the *Concho*, it will be seen that the condition of things in Cuba is terrible. Dr. Lesser says:—

"From June 27th to July 31st, while I was in Cuba, at Santiago, and Siboney, I saw nothing but devastation and disease. The conditions resulting from the battles were horrible. The wounded were so many that they lay on the ground for hours, not only in and about the hospital tents, but in the brush and trenches near the scene of the fight, before they could be attended to at all.

Out of the entire number of Red Cross physicians and nurses who were at Siboney, only three were at one time able to be about and work. Major La Garde, who was at the head of the Red Cross forces in the hospital at Siboney, is the only one who has escaped illness so far. His two assistants were coming down with the fever when I left. I feel that it is an outrage that more could not be done down there for the wounded than has been done.

The fault does not lie among the men and women who are doing the work. We had nothing then. We were short of medicines all the time. Everything that we needed in the greatest quantities was given to us in small quantities, even to cots for the fever patients, and food and ice. With the wounded alone there was work enough to be done, but when the fever came it was many times worse than before.

In my report to the Red Cross Society I have stated all these things and have said that the whole management of the Hospital and Commissary departments should be investigated with the utmost care, that conditions down in Cuba may be improved, and not grow worse, as they are now doing every day. Nearly all the sisters of the Red Cross

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