

We intend to record how the medical men, who have monopolised absolute power in the Nurses' Association, act on this occasion. They have shown themselves capable of persecuting an innocent member, by condemning her conduct when she was exonerated in a court of law, because she had the courage to oppose their illegal conduct of business. Now, we shall see how they act when one of their own subservient supporters and friends is convicted of a most grave offence.

### Appointments.

#### MATRON.

MISS GEORGINA K. ADAMS has been appointed Matron of the Middleward Hospital for Infectious Diseases, near Motherwell, Lanarkshire. Miss Adams received her training at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and has, since completing it, held the position of Matron of the Forfar Infirmary.

MISS SMITH, who received her training at the Forfar Infirmary, and who has worked there for the last five years, has been appointed Matron of that Institution, in the place of Miss Georgina K. Adams.

WE regret that in announcing the appointment of Miss Annie Brown, last week, the words "Isolation Hospital" were, by a printer's error, omitted. The paragraph should, of course, run—Miss Annie Brown has been appointed Matron of the Urban District Council Isolation Hospital, Ilford, not "Matron of the Urban District Council."

### An Important Decision.

We move on slowly towards the end which so many nurses have at heart—"A Uniform System of Education, Examination, Certification, and State Registration" for nurses. There has been an almost incredible amount of opposition, in this country, to this wise and necessary measure, and sometimes those in the thick of the fray are nearly inclined to think that they are losing rather than gaining ground. But this, in reality, is not the case; and from time to time a light on the horizon shows them that day is dawning. The Cape Medical Council, which has up to the present time recognised a two years' course of nursing education, has decided that in future only those nurses who have received a three years' training will be eligible for the certificates granted by the Council. This decision will have the effect of raising the standard of nursing throughout Cape Colony; and, moreover, proves that those best able to form an opinion on this important subject, in South Africa, have arrived at the same conclusion as leading British Hospital Matrons, and consider three years the minimum period in which a thorough nursing education can be given.

## The American Red Cross Society.

### OFFICIAL REPORT.

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#### AMPUTATIONS AVOIDED.

THE wounded continued to arrive in that way for four days, many of them telling that they had been shot on the first day of the battle, July 1st, and as yet had received no care except from some comrade who had with him a little emergency package. Permit me to say here that I believe the little emergency package has saved many a man from death through bleeding.

Most notable and commendable was the desire of the surgical staff to save limbs when at all possible, and I have seen and often joined Drs. Fauntleroy, Nancrede, Ireland, and Parker in the work spending an hour for resection of a part in order to prevent amputation. Of course, all endeavoured to do the same, and out of the total number of 1,415 wounded treated in the Siboney hospital after the battle there were but three amputations of the thigh, two of the leg and one of the forearm that I observed in camp. The death rate was also very small, as most of the shots made clean wounds, and only when they affected most vital parts did they cause death. Neglected wounds were frequently exhibited, but careful surgery and drainage seemed to improve most of those cases.

The dressing of wounds and the operating upon the wounded, however, were not all the service required by the injured. Shelter, comfortable cots and blankets were needed, very few of which had been landed. Still, as the wounded came and the needs became greater I saw Surgeon-Major La Garde, most ably assisted by Chaplain Gavitt, hunt about for canvas or anything that would act as cover for a tent, and have it put along the tents and flies. Their work was unceasing. In those days every officer and member of the medical staff gave up his tent and cot that the wounded might find some kind of shelter and proper resting place, but in spite of that they were inadequate for the requirements. The largest number of wounded lay on the ground, some on blankets, others on canvas, or, if very severely wounded, on a litter.

The *State of Texas* had a number of cots (I believe 350) which were originally meant for Cuban relief, many of which we used in the Red Cross Hospital at Siboney. When I informed Miss Barton of the condition of affairs, all cots that were in the ship were unloaded and sent to the hospital, and the most seriously wounded received comfortable resting places. The gauze, particularly the iodoform gauze, and bandages soon gave

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