

practical training, with examinations to test their qualifications, and award certificates, and as a body they offer a poor contrast to the well-educated and superior nurse, whom we are happily accustomed to find in our hospitals.

These facts are only mentioned to show the status of the male nurse in Continental Hospitals, and they prove that we shall not find among them any example which will serve for our guidance. It is not until we cross the Atlantic that we discover how talents have been cultivated, and powers developed in this interesting branch of nursing. Let us glance at the work done at the City Hospital Training School, New York. After a Civil Service examination the male nurses spend three months, under a male Head Nurse, in a Medical Ward. They pass on to special wards, and at the end of the year have to pass another examination, when they receive diplomas as graduate male nurses. A small increasing salary is given.

The work consists (much as an English nurse's does) in keeping wards clean and orderly, making beds, giving baths to patients on reception, also medical baths as needed, enemata, poultices, fomentations, etc. The nurse is responsible to the House Physician, the Steward, and the head male nurse for all he does.

After two years' training, he is expected to nurse mental cases for at least six months before he can go out as a mental nurse. After leaving the school, and doing about five years satisfactory private work, a nurse may become a member of the Bureau for Nurses, of the New York Academy of Medicine, after passing an examination before the Medical Board in regard to his work since he left the training school, and by filling in a printed form of application. One of the questions asked is "Give four names and addresses of patients, also four physicians you have worked for."

A special form is sent to the physicians asking them what class the applicant should be put in, and what cases he is best suited for, as they have three grades of nurses. The rule is not to let a nurse go out for less than 12s. a day, and often £1 is charged.

A Nurses' Directory is published with the addresses of nurses in, and left at each drug store in the city.

These statements have been quoted somewhat largely from an instructive letter which appeared some time ago in the NURSING RECORD, because nothing is more convincing to those who delight in playing the part of wet blanket to any new departure, than to be able to point, as an object lesson, to the system already in good working order—having stood the test of practical experience, and with evidently every prospect of a successful future before it.

Adverse arguments are most easily silenced when confronted with facts. It is no doubt true, that in a new country, where an open field exists

for new experiments to be made, the advantage is enjoyed of freedom from the prejudices and conservative sentiment of the Old Country, where every Institution and System is largely influenced by tradition and usage. And we find that in the virgin soil of America, undertakings which take root, grow with a rapidity, and reach an extent not known with us. For example, we read that this Bureau has on its books over 1000 nurses, male and female.

We have all lately read the deeply interesting account of the ceremonies attending the presentation of diplomas to 29 male nurses at the Bellevue Hospital Training School for Male Nurses, in New York, nine of whom have volunteered their services as nurses in the United States Hospital Ship, *Solace*.

This Training School was opened as lately as 1888, and since then, 132 male nurses have graduated. It now nurses the entire male department of the Hospital, and the work and conduct of the men seem to call for nothing but praise. Their devotion to their duties and to their patients have, we read, been appreciated by all who saw it, or benefited by it.

Already signs are not wanting that the male nurse will soon be found among the ranks of the British nursing profession, and it seems of great importance that the new force shall be cultivated to its highest efficiency, and be directed in well organized channels to the benefit of the sick and suffering, who seek its aid.

This paper pretends to do nothing more than introduce the subject, in order to find out what are the opinions and feelings of others on the matter, and in the hope that it may be taken up and fully discussed.

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

MISS MARION CLUTTERBUCK has been appointed Lady Superintendent of the Bolton Private Nursing Home. Miss Clutterbuck received her training at the Royal Berks Hospital, Reading, where she afterwards held the position of Sister. She was subsequently appointed Sister at the Stafford General Infirmary, and the Marylebone Infirmary, and Assistant Matron at the Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. Miss Clutterbuck at present holds the position of Home Sister at the Belfast Nurses' Home and Training School.

MATRON.

MISS LUCAS has been appointed Matron of the London Temperance Hospital, in the place of Miss Orme, who recently resigned this position. Miss Lucas received her training at the Leeds Infirmary, from 1885 to 1888. From 1888 to 1893, she held the position of Sister of a men's ward, as well as Theatre Sister, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

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