

no future campaign shall the brave men, who risk life in the defence of their country, and in extending its empire, be left to the tender mercies of a Medical Directorate which will deny them the care and attention of the skilled Army Sisters—a corps of nurses by the bye maintained by the Nation for their special benefit.

The public must arouse themselves to the realisation of the dangers to their interests involved in any tyranny over the profession of Nursing by that of Medicine. The medical men on the Royal British Nurses' Association have conspired together, by drafting a new Code of Bye-Laws which they thrust through the Executive Committee of that Association in the most reprehensible manner, and which the Lords of the Privy Council have approved without permitting the protesting members a just hearing, by Counsel, to deprive the Nurse-Members of all practical authority, or even power of expression in their own Association—with the result that the conscientious members have felt compelled to resign all connection with the Association, which they founded for their own mutual assistance and support.

Their Association is now entirely under the domination of men who have not hesitated in the past to intimidate nurse members, who had the courage to protest against their autocratic and illegal rule, and men moreover, whose position in their own profession is far below the front rank. Thus the powers of the Royal Charter of Incorporation are being used against the true interests of trained nurses by a few interested medical men.

How dangerous this professional domination—viz., that of interested medical men over trained nurses—is, the public will soon learn, and they have a fair object lesson in the attitude of the Army Medical Department towards the tried, experienced, and indispensable Army Nursing Sisters, whose services have been denied for the first time to the Nation's soldiers in the Soudan campaign.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

MISS BEATRICE CUTLER has been appointed Matron of the Victoria Home Hospital, Cairo, a new Hospital of twenty-five beds, which has been opened by Dr. Milton, until recently Medical Superintendent of the Government Hospital in that city. Miss Cutler holds the certificate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, the L.O.S. diploma, and Dr. Fletcher Little's massage certificate. She has also held the positions of Sister at the Kasr-el-Aini Hospital, Cairo, Superintendent of the Medical School for Girls, and recently acted for a time as inspector of pilgrims at Suez, with a view to isolating suspected cases of plague. Miss Cutler therefore, possesses wide experience, and is well qualified for the position she has undertaken.

Legal Matters.

"NO SUCH PEOPLE."

A QUESTION of much importance to nurses has been raised by Miss Alice Beatty, M.R.B.N.A., of 17, Netherwood Road, West Kensington, who brought an action against the proprietor of Horrex's Hotel, Strand, for refusing her admission to Mrs. Cathcart, a patient whom she was professionally attending.

Miss Beattie, who conducted her own case, stated that for some months she had been attending Mrs. Cathcart, but had not been to the hotel in nurse's uniform. On December 16th she was going to the *Conversazione* of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and went home for her uniform. On her return she was refused admission, though it had been arranged that she should dine with her patient, and go to the *conversazione*. Mr. Horrex met her in the hall and said, "I will have no such people as you about the hotel." Miss Beatty replied, "I am not 'such people,' I am a trained nurse." She was, nevertheless, refused admission. On another occasion, when Miss Beatty was telegraphed for, she was refused admission. She received another telegram stating that Mrs. Cathcart was very ill and wanted her at once. The landlord's daughter then said she was being kept out on account of the solicitor's instructions. Eventually, with the help of the solicitor's clerk, she got in, and was there for five weeks. Mrs. Cathcart would not have another nurse. For the defence, Mr. Wallace said that, of course, if a lady wanted to see someone, the fact that her solicitor gave instructions to the contrary, was no reason for refusal, but, as a matter of fact, Mr. Deakin did give the instructions, and he had three witnesses who would swear to it.

It appears to us that having regard to this assertion, to the denial of the solicitor, and to the boycott which Miss Beatty states has been directed against her by certain members of the medical profession, there is more in this attempt to exclude her from the hotel than "meets the eye."

Mr. Wallace further contended that a hotel-keeper had absolute discretion as to whom he admitted. Though a man kept an hotel, it was his castle to all but travellers.

The judge enquired whether it was a matter of good feeling if a medical man were admitted, who was summoned to attend a patient in a hotel, and what would happen if a man went to pay a bill of exchange to a man in a hotel, and he was refused admission. The bill would be dishonoured.

Finally the judge said the matter was important and reserved his decision. From the plaintiff's point of view this might injure her. He wished to say there was nothing whatever suggested against the plaintiff.

Upon giving judgment his Honour Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., said that the defendant held that the plaintiff was not a traveller, and that she had

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