

Annual Meetings at Buffalo in 1891, so that in the States arrangements are made well ahead.

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THE American women interested in the Bill for a Nursing Service for the United States Army, have held several consultations and meetings to bring the matter before the public and discuss details. The opposition to the Bill mainly centres on the appointment of the Superintendent of the Nursing Service. The women and Matrons who have promoted the Bill advocating—quite rightly we think—that the Superintendent should be a thoroughly qualified trained nurse, the other side advocating that the head should be a surgeon. We sincerely hope that Congress will follow the example of every well organized training school, and place the superintendence of the nurses in the hands of a member of their own profession—by no other means can a really efficient Nursing Service be organized.

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SOME medical practitioners in New York have inaugurated a course of two months' training in the elements of nursing, at the end of which time the pupils are examined, and if they pass the examination to the satisfaction of their teachers they receive a diploma, stating that they are qualified to nurse feeble elderly persons, little children, chronic cases, and convalescents. They then don a uniform, register with the committee in charge of the course, and go out nursing for \$10 a week. As the outlay for their eight weeks' instruction is only \$12 their profit should be somewhat large.

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AT the same time we think that it is much to be deplored that any qualified medical practitioners should have established so very inefficient a course of training, for inefficient it must be in this period of time. We are quite of opinion that every girl should be taught the elements of physiology, anatomy, and simple nursing, but, as a part of her general education, and not as in any way entitling her to a certificate as a trained nurse of any sort. In the second place it is easy to foresee that these eight weeks' nurses will, after a certain amount of private practice, consider themselves competent to nurse cases of all kinds, and will not stop at the elderly people and little children, though why these two classes of cases are to be delivered over to their care it is not easy to understand. They will also probably ask and obtain a \$20 fee, and will compete most unfairly with nurses who have conscientiously undergone a thorough training. From all points of view we must therefore consider this new scheme most ill-advised.

The Hospital World.

THE Grosvenor Hospital for Women and Children is one which is comparatively little known, but which is doing excellent work, and benefitting many poor women. The Hospital, which has recently been rebuilt, stands away from the main thoroughfares, overlooking Vincent Square, Westminster, and the large open space, and the consequent fresh air must be a great boon to the patients. There is accommodation in the general wards for twenty patients besides several small wards which are reserved for private patients.

The patients in the general wards pay 5s. a week each, those in the private wards from one to three guineas. There is a light, and well-appointed operating theatre on the upper floor.

The Matron of the Hospital, who has been recently appointed, is Miss May, who received her training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Probationers are received, and trained for two years, but of course can obtain no experience in the nursing of men. It would seem as if the Grosvenor Hospital is just one of those institutions which, when nursing is better organized, and the special hospitals fall into line, might with advantage both to itself and to the general hospitals, become affiliated with one of the latter. The work there is excellent, and affords most valuable experience, but it is of too special a character to be available for a general training ground, neither is the number of beds up to the generally accepted standard, but the advantage of a period of training there during, or supplementary to a general course would be great. We hope the day will come when all the special hospitals will be utilized in this way. One advantage of the hospital from the patients' point of view, and one which is much appreciated by them, is that there is no medical school attached, and therefore there are no students in attendance upon them. It is not one of the least trials of a sensitive patient in a general hospital to form the subject of a lecture from the "chief" to a group of eager students gathered round the bed, and many patients for this reason prefer to enter a small hospital.

The Committee of the Hospital is, at the present time, appealing urgently for funds, as for want of them considerably less patients can be taken in than there is accommodation for. The President of the Institution is Viscount Cross, whose name is a guarantee as to its efficient management. The Hospital is also happy in possessing an energetic Ladies' Committee, and donations or annual subscriptions will be most thankfully received by the President of the Committee, the Dowager Lady Mordaunt, 63, Warwick Square, S.W.

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