

the happiness and home of a very amiable lady well known to us has been the result. The case is the more cruel, as Mrs. Westmacott was in England for the purpose of undergoing painful surgical treatment, and only recovered her strength to suffer such severe grief and distress of mind. Once again we draw the attention of the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association to the conduct of one of their Registered, and no doubt "loyal members." This is the fourth member convicted of gross moral delinquency during the past twelve months, and who should be summarily removed from the Roll. This comes of medical men assuming absolute personal control over women nurses. It is an undignified and dangerous position for them to attempt to maintain. Failure, demoralization, is inevitable.

### A Verdict of Censure.

AN inquest was recently held at the London Hospital on a patient who had committed suicide while under restraint in a padded room. The nurses and attendants of the hospital were unable to throw any light upon the way in which the deceased came into possession of the knife, and the inquest was adjourned in order that two women, who had visited the patient, might be present. The evidence of the two male attendants upon the patient, Clark and Green, was somewhat contradictory, and ultimately the coroner, Mr. Wynne E. Baxter, said that whatever blame there was in the matter was attached to the two male attendants; if anything, Green was the worse of the two. The jury returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane, the foreman adding, "We unanimously wish to pass a vote of censure on the attendants, Green and Clark, as we don't believe a word they say."

We notice that there is no suggestion that these attendants, whose word could not be believed on oath were in any sense trained nurses. It is, nevertheless, of the utmost importance that all patients in the care of a hospital should receive skilled, and trustworthy, care. We venture to suggest to Mr. Sydney Holland, who has done so much to improve the nursing arrangements of the London Hospital, that he should establish, like the Belle-Vue Hospital of New York, a course of thorough training for male nurses, when such a verdict as we now record would, we hope, be impossible. If it is necessary to employ men to attend upon the sick, it is essential that they should be nurses, not attendants; and they can only attain the necessary skill by going through a systematic course of training.

### Appointments.

#### MATRON.

MISS MARY LAMBERT has been appointed Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Longton, Staffordshire. Miss Lambert holds the three years' certificate of the Middlesborough Infirmary, and has held the positions of Head Nurse at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and Matron of the Carmarthen and Southport Infirmarys, and of the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, Eastbourne.

MISS JOSEPHINE WHITTAKER has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Bath Statutory Hospital for Infectious Diseases. Miss Whittaker was trained at the North Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, and at the General Hospital, Plymouth. She has also held the position of Sister at the London Fever Hospital, and the Nottingham Isolation Hospital, and recently has been attached to the staff of the London and Brighton Nursing Association.

MISS CHARLOTTE COURTNELL has been appointed Nurse-Matron at the Gosport and Alverstoke Isolation Hospital. Miss Courtneil was trained for three years at the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth, and has acted as Charge-Nurse, Head Nurse, and Acting-Matron at the Milton Fever Hospital.

MISS THOMPSON has been appointed Nurse-Matron of the Infirmary, Dawlish. Miss Thompson received her training at the Birmingham General Hospital, and has held the positions of Matron at Sir Titus Salt's Hospital, Saltaire, and Night Superintendent at the Hospital, Burton-on-Trent.

#### ASSISTANT MATRON.

MISS ADA HUNTER, who was trained at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, and has for the last two years held the post of Theatre Sister in that Institution, has been appointed Assistant Matron, a position which she will hold in conjunction with her present one.

#### SISTER.

MISS LAURA M. TODD has been appointed an Army Nursing Sister at Netley. Miss Todd was trained and certificated at Addenbrooke's and Charing Cross Hospitals, and for a year held the position of Charge Nurse at the Park Hospital, Hither Green. She also holds the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society. Miss Todd has, since last year, been a member of the Registered Nurses' Society.

#### HEAD NURSE.

MISS S. E. BARLOW has been appointed Head Nurse at the Cottage Hospital, Longton. Miss

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