

there until he is considered efficient. His education, however, is systematically continued throughout his service with the colours. That it is sound may be inferred from the fact that many on leaving the colours obtain employment at good salaries as nurses in institutions and for private cases. The Royal Army Medical Corps is responsible for all hospital duties, but all the men are available for nursing duties, and perform them in turn. When there is gardening to be done, pensioners are as a rule employed."

THIS fully confirms our assertion that the nursing education of orderlies is carried out in conjunction with many other duties. We do not think that those who know anything of nurse training will consider that passing through the curriculum stated by Mr. Wyndham as that required of orderlies qualifies them to rank as trained nurses.

WE have received the Report of the East London Nursing Society, from which, it would appear, that the work of the nurses is much appreciated by their patients. It is less satisfactory to learn that though the income from annual subscriptions has increased, there has been a considerable falling off in donations, and, but for the exertions of supporters of this charity at the close of the year, an additional grant from the Ossington Trust, and an unexpected Legacy from Messrs. Barnato Brothers, from the estate of Mr. Woolf Joel all the balance in the hands of the Committee would have been absorbed.

THE Committee, during the last year, lost, with regret, the services of Nurse Barchard, owing to her having offered her services in connection with the plague epidemic in India. A letter from the nurse states that she finds the work very congenial, "though," she says, "I do not like it better than East London, for that I loved very much."

THE Annual Meeting of the Society will be held at St. Martin's Church Vestry Hall on Thursday, March 23rd, at 3 p.m., when, no doubt, many interesting details of the work will be given.

THE final examination of the nurses at the London Central Sick Asylum has just been held, and the following nurses have gained certificates: Edith Emily Schuller, Mary Gilchrist McLaren, Agnes Helena Scott, Jessie Harbott, and Miriam Rosina Jack. The examination was conducted by Mr. Augustus Joseph Pepper, F.R.C.S., of St. Mary's Hospital, who expressed himself much pleased with the knowledge shown by the nurses.

FOR the benefit of the correspondent who resents our criticism of the Prince of Wales's Fund, and

who "considers the suggested organization of the League of Mercy admirable from every point of view," we will quote from last week's "British Medical Journal," as we quite agree with its expression of opinion, "The part of the scheme which, we frankly say, we like least is the 'Order.' It may be necessary to hold out to gentlemen and ladies these small distinctions and decorations in order to enlist them in a charitable effort which they would not undertake for charity apart from such reward; but if so, it is an ugly necessity. We could have wished that the scheme of the League of Mercy had been started on its own merits. Its success must depend on very careful handling. The inconveniences and scandals which made the "snow-ball" system offensive to the public must be avoided, and this scheme bears a striking resemblance to that system. Again, if it sets men and women hunting for decorations, it will, we fear, fall into public ridicule." In our opinion the bribery of men and women to affect a sympathy with human suffering (and how widespread and terrible it is) which they do not feel, is demoralizing in the extreme and an insult to those in distress.

THE "Chelsea Mail" of last week objects to our out-spoken remarks concerning the now notorious nursing scandals at the Chelsea Infirmary, and promises us further consideration in an early issue. In the meantime we have pleasure in making the position of the protesting guardians quite clear.

OSTENSIBLY extended powers have been asked for by the Matron, because she was unable to obtain nurses to fill the vacancies at the Infirmary, the Guardians having last year deprived her of the power of selection. The following letter addressed to the "Municipal Journal" disproves this argument.

"ONE of the Guardians," writing from Chelsea, sends it the following letter: "May I be allowed to call your attention to a mistake in your impression of March 3rd. You say under Poor-law notes, 'Up to last summer no difficulty was experienced in filling vacancies on the nursing staff at Chelsea Infirmary.' This is exactly contrary to the facts: the Guardians made an alteration in consequence of the difficulty they experienced with regard to the filling up of vacancies in the infirmary. It was thought there might be less difficulty if there was an alteration made. This was not, however, the case, and they experienced the difficulty still. It was after eight months that a further alteration was proposed. Two resolutions appeared, one being that instead of the nurses coming before the General Committee

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