

The last improvement she introduced was to organize and train the male nurses who had up till then been without systematic instruction or adequate supervision. As a result of her organizing ability, the Hospital Department was placed more and more under her control, until she came to have the superintendence of more than one hundred nurses and of an average of eight hundred patients daily.

The strain of all this work was, of course, very severe, and she never could be induced to spare herself where the interests of the nurses or patients were concerned. As she was never strong, it is not wonderful that ten years of this labour completely broke her down, and at the end of 1897 she was compelled to resign all active work. She never really regained her health, although after spending six months with her sister in Canada she appeared sufficiently recovered to travel in Europe. It proved, however, that the excitement of movement and new scenes was too much for her, and her end, although a shock, was only the culmination of what had long been going on. She died in a Nursing Home superintended by the sister of her friend and colleague, Miss Kimber, and her funeral service was held Thursday, June

6th, in the church of St. Saviour, St. George's Square, London.

Miss Darche's death, and the consequent loss to the profession of which she has been so conspicuous and devoted a member, will be widely mourned by her colleagues both in this country and in the United States and Canada. As an evidence of this we may mention that a wreath

bearing the inscription "With loving sympathy and warm admiration of Louise Darche, from the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland," was one of those which found a place over the remains of the deceased lady, and it was a cause of real satisfaction to her colleagues, that they were able to testify in this way to the esteem in which they held her. But the moral of Miss Darche's sudden and sad end is one which over and over again forces itself painfully before those who are aware at what a cost the public work of many women is achieved.



MISS LOUISE DARCHE,

Late Superintendent of the New York Training School for Nurses, Blackwell's Island.

Work itself women of Miss Darche's type delight in, neither is it this which tries them. But the strain to the delicate nervous organization of a conscientious woman, inseparable from the work of reform in any direction is extreme, and, frequently, sooner or later, it effects a complete mental

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