

men—the trained members of our army and navy. In the same way it was only logical to assume that the back bone of the nursing should be found in trained women who, for years, had made this their profession. These it was thought should form a nucleus around which could be built up a proper system and efficiency in the nursing. I would particularly insist that the Associated Alumnae of trained nurses did not desire that all the nurses for the army should be selected from their ranks; what they did ask was that the service should be organized from a strictly business standpoint and, that for nursing, trained women should be selected, and that each individual nurse should be chosen only after affording some guarantee that she had been fitted by a proper training for the work in hand. The following telegram was, therefore, despatched to the Surgeon-General:—

April 28th, 1898.

To the Honourable Secretary of War, Washington, D.C.:

The Associated Alumnae of Trained Nurses of the United States and Canada, including 2,000 graduates of twenty-four Training Schools, offer their services for any work which the Medical Department of the army may demand of them in connection with the war with Spain.

By direction of the Delegates now in session in New York City.

(To be continued.)

Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute

SCOTTISH BRANCH.

THE Eleventh Annual Report of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses shows that the work is growing in extent. There are now 25 affiliated Associations, and 80 Associations which employ only one nurse are in touch with the Head Quarters of the Institute, and are inspected by Miss J. Wade, the Superintendent, or Miss Cooper, the Assistant Inspector, twice during the year. These visits are much appreciated both by the local committees and by the nurses, and are of especial value as tending to maintain a uniform standard of work amongst isolated nurses. We notice that three nurses and one probationer have died during the past year, which seems a large number out of a staff of 187. The Council are to be congratulated on the steady progress made in the work of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute in Scotland, a fact which is, no doubt, largely due to the energy and ability of the Superintendent, Miss Wade. Miss Hadden, whose services as District Superintendent were greatly appreciated, has been appointed Superintendent of the Bloomsbury District Training Home.

Nursing Echoes.

* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



THOSE who remember the Colston Block at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in the days of scrubbed boards and flock beds, would hardly recognize it at the present time. Highly polished floors have superseded the well-worn boards, white enamelled iron bedsteads, on india-rubber castors, with wire woven and hair mattresses, replace the somewhat antiquated ones with sacking bottoms. Close tiled grates are installed instead of the open fireplaces, and, with a comfortable rug in front, look very cheery. A great and necessary improvement has been made in the provision of well ventilated cupboards for the storage of food in the kitchens. Again, in the bath-rooms, those whose duty it was as probationers to keep the wood-work of the baths well scrubbed and the zinc baths polished till they acted as looking-glasses, will think—when they inspect the bath-rooms at the present time, and see that the wood-work has been removed, and white enamelled baths replace the zinc ones—that the lines of the probationers of to-day have fallen in pleasant places. And yet, those who trained early in the eighties are wont to look back to those days as very happy ones, and to wonder sometimes if the bracing effect of the real hard work and scant comfort of those times was not more effective in producing "real grit" than the easier times in which we live now.

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 WE wonder if the readers of the *Trained Nurse* had any difficulty in obtaining a copy of the November number, which contained Miss L. L. Dock's fine paper on the position of Nursing in England, and in which our nursing politics were freely yet tastefully criticised, and a somewhat unfavourable opinion expressed concerning the Pension Fund?

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 So far as our experience went, last month's *Trained Nurse* was not procurable at the publisher's offices. We sent three times—the first time, in the middle of the month, we were informed the consignment had not arrived; the second call elicited the information that it would be on sale the following Monday morning; and at our third request, early on the Monday morning, we were

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