

nursing and hygiene; laid down the laws and principles of nursing too clearly to be refuted, and who founded a school for the training of nurses in connection with St. Thomas's Hospital, London, in 1860, which led the way from the maze of good intentions to the clear path of practical usefulness, instituting nursing as a profession, on a scientific basis, peculiarly adapted for women. I emphasize this fact because we are apt to associate the name and fame of Florence Nightingale with army nursing reform, as the result of her splendid efforts during the Crimean War; but it is because she realized and enforced the truth that nursing is not only a technical handicraft but a science that we owe her an inestimable debt."

It is reported that, at the last meeting of the Marylebone Guardians, Mr. Thomas asserted that the maximum age of applicants had been raised in order to allow an officer at the Infirmary to be promoted to the vacant matronship. We hope that, should the officer referred to be the best candidate, she will be appointed irrespective of her age, but no hole and corner manipulation of the post for the benefit of any official in the building should be for an instant permitted.

NEARLY a hundred and seventy persons have recently passed the examination of the London Obstetrical Society, and obtained its certificate. We wonder how many of these are trained nurses who have obtained an added qualification, and how many are women who, after three months' experience in a maternity home, will undertake, in the future, not only the management of maternity cases, but the nursing of any complications, such as pneumonia, or other acute diseases which may occur during the puerperal period. As a rule, the less a partially trained person knows, the more she feels competent to undertake, as regards the nursing of the sick. Vanity forbids that she should ever acknowledge that there is anything with which she is not competent to cope.

MISS ASHTON, of Ford House, Didsbury, who has for years maintained a nurse in the town, has offered, on the resignation of the nurse, to give £50 a year towards the salary of a nurse if the townspeople will raise a similar sum. It has been resolved to accept Miss Ashton's offer, and to raise the supplementary £50, or as much more as may be required.

ON the invitation of the Committee of the Queen Victoria District Nursing Association, in Liverpool, friendly visitors of the Central Relief Society recently paid a visit to the Central Home

of the Association in Prince's Road. The home is the gift of Mr. Benjamin Levy, who has devoted personal time and trouble to making it thoroughly comfortable for the nursing staff. An interesting account was given by Miss Wilson, the Lady Superintendent, of the duties of the nurses, who also explained how blankets and other comforts were, when necessary, supplied to the patients under their care, and that much trouble was taken to secure the comfort of the patients and the cleanliness of their surroundings.

THE Walsall Guardians have had some difficulty in obtaining the services of a male nurse. First they selected an Army Reserve man, who appeared desirable, but he was "the picture of a soldier," and, a week after his appointment, was re-called to join the colours. Then they made another appointment, but a letter was read from the man selected, saying that he would be the loser to the extent of £5 a year, so he had decided not to accept office. He also disapproved of the apartments provided for him. On being questioned as to whether he had been able to obtain temporary assistance, the Master said he had engaged a man, but he had come in drunk, and he had been obliged to send him about his business. We much fear that, until properly organized schools for male nurses are instituted in connection with military hospitals instead of the present inefficient system, desirable male nurses will be rare, and difficult to obtain. The born male nurse is even a rarer creature than the born woman nurse, and so long as there is no training ground for him, the finished article will be unattainable.

At the Annual Meeting of the Bristol Nurses' Institution, 24, Richmond Terrace, Clifton, held recently, the report, read by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Morton, was of a satisfactory nature. The work done by the nurses had, it was stated, been very good, and was much valued, both by private patients and by medical men. A new feature during the past year was the opening of nine beds for private patients, which had been much appreciated. We are glad to notice also that this year a bonus of ten per cent. on their earnings has been paid to the nurses, in addition to their salaries. The report spoke warmly of the work of the Lady Superintendent, Miss Thompson-Hill, under whose care the affairs of the institution and nursing home had been administered most capably and smoothly, and with kind consideration for the welfare of the nurses.

At the Annual Meeting of the Subscribers to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow,

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