

"MUCH has appeared lately in the press on the relationship of physician and nurse in the army and hospital, but there is going on to-day, among the members of the medical profession, a current of thought which, if it once gains headway, will break forth in a torrent inimical to the future of the graduate nurse. . . . In carrying out the instructions given her, she (the nurse) is his (the physician's) house officer, and no amount of culture or so-called 'higher education' should make her feel that the duties assigned to her are of a too trivial or menial nature to be executed by her.

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"THAT many nurses have given grounds for such a feeling is evident from the opinions gathered by physicians from their patients, and a remedy has been started in some quarters by the training of women who, after a short practical course under regular practising physicians, will be capable and willing to fulfil the duties of practical nursing satisfactorily, both to the physician and patient. Therefore, when the highly educated graduate nurse finds herself being set aside for non-graduates, let her not blame the training her course has given her, but, rather, the false idea she has allowed to influence her as to her true position as a nurse, remembering that the physician will always prefer the graduate nurse in caring for his patients, excepting when he finds that such nurses are not true to themselves or to their profession."

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HERE there is a distinct threat, on the part of a medical man, deliberately to reject the services of graduate nurses, and to employ instead women who have had no training, as training is understood to-day, but only a "short practical course" under a physician. It would be interesting to know what experience the physicians, who are to assume the office of teachers of practical nursing, have had in this art themselves. It must not be forgotten that instruction in nursing in no way forms part of the education of the medical practitioner. Furthermore, a most important part of a nurse's training, the discipline to which she is subjected in the course of a prolonged probationary period, would be wholly absent in the so-called training given by a medical man. It is surprising to find that in these days such a proposition should be seriously made, but it serves to show to nurses in the United States that, although they have made many steps forward, their profession is not yet on a wholly secure basis, and that there is still an element amongst medical men who would substitute for their efficient services those of untrained women.

The Hospital World.

RUCHILL FEVER HOSPITAL, GLASGOW.

THE Ruchill Fever Hospital, Glasgow, which was last week opened by Princess Christian, is a model of its kind, as the Corporation and citizens of Glasgow have spared no pains to make the building as complete as such an institution can be. The building was begun in 1894, and the foundation-stone laid in 1895, so that it has been six years in arriving at completion. The site was selected with a view to its accessibility from districts inhabited by the working classes, while, at the same time, the hospital is in a position to obtain much fresh air and sunshine. It is built on the pavilion plan, and there are 34 distinct blocks of buildings, 16 of which are for the reception of patients, and will contain in all 440 beds. Upwards of 2,000 cubic feet of air are allowed to each bed, and the sanitary and ventilating arrangements have been approved by specialists, after examination. In the administrative block, which is a three-storied building, the medical superintendent and matron are accommodated, as well as the nursing staff, for whom 200 bed-rooms have been provided. There is a large recreation-room, as well as sitting-rooms, and there are also no less than four large sick-rooms for the use of the nurses in the event of cases of non-infectious illness occurring. There is an enquiry-room, where visitors can receive direct and reliable information with regard to the patients. On one side of this block is the mortuary, on the other the clearing-house, where there are bath-rooms provided for both men and women. There is also a fire engine station, a laundry, and various workshops and stables. In the same building as the kitchen are the dining halls, the steward's stores, the dispensary, and the offices of the clerk of the works and the steward. A water tower provides the necessary supply of water to the various parts of the building, while a railway siding near the stables permits of coal and other supplies being brought direct to the hospital. The whole scheme is, therefore, most complete. It includes, further, a day workers' block, where there is accommodation for 78 persons, with recreation room, drapery stores, baths, lavatories, and other necessary accommodation. The building is lighted by electricity, and heated by hot water, as well as by open fireplaces.

The exterior of the hospital is in the Elizabethan style. The complete cost will probably exceed £250,000, which seems a large sum, but the provision and equipment of a thoroughly up-to-date hospital becomes daily a more costly affair.

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