

safety of the public, therefore, nurses should be women of some general education.

YET, further, there are few people who, at the present day, would be bold enough to assert that nursing is merely a domestic art. For many years it is true nursing ranked on a level, or perhaps, indeed, occupied a lower plane than domestic service, and only unrefined, uneducated, and frequently incapable women adopted it as a calling, with the result that the sick suffered. When Dickens drew his immortal pictures of Sairey Gamp and Betsy Prig he did not draw caricatures, but depicted the nurse of his day, when, perhaps, nursing had fallen to its lowest depths.

THEN arose a strong feeling that the care of the sick should not be entrusted to the ignorant, the drunken, the disreputable; and women of refinement and breeding found their way into our hospitals and infirmaries, and in less than half a century have absolutely transformed them. It is noteworthy that those who have been most instrumental in raising the tone of nursing, and in purifying both the physical and moral conditions of hospitals, are those who are most strenuous in their insistence for the higher education of nurses. Nursing, they say, is a scientific profession, and this being so, it can never be said to have attained perfection, it can never rest satisfied with present achievements, but as medical and surgical knowledge increase, nursing, the daughter, and the necessary complement of the older sciences, must keep pace with her parents if she is to render them the necessary assistance.

HERE again the need of general education is evinced. To apprehend and carry out scientific principles, an accurate and well-balanced mind is required. Accuracy is rarely an inherent quality, it is almost invariably the outcome of application, and patient study, and the habit of acquiring knowledge, though not necessarily knowledge of the subject in hand, bears fruit in enabling one accustomed to exercise her mind to grasp with ease principles which baffle those who have not had the advantage of early education.

IN addition, the work of a nurse is very varied, her duties bring her into contact with all sorts and conditions of men and women. She must know something of the world she lives in if she is not to be at a disadvantage in mixing with them, and in taking her place as a member of an honourable profession. Have we said enough to prove that evidence of general knowledge should be required of everyone who aspires to enter the ranks of the nursing profession?

The Hospital World.

THE YEOMANRY HOSPITAL.

WE are asked to publish the following details with regard to the Yeomanry Hospital:—

SCHEME.

1. That the Hospital be called "The Imperial Yeomanry Hospital."
2. That the Hospital be formed at Cape Town.
3. That a Senior Surgeon shall be chosen.
4. That a Civilian, whose selection shall be approved by the Secretary of State for War, shall be appointed to co-operate with the Senior Surgeon.
5. That the said Civilian shall be in touch with the Military Authorities at Cape Town through the Staff Officer of the Yeomanry Depot there.
6. That the said Civilian be instructed to proceed to Cape Town and select suitable premises for the Hospital.
7. That the Hospital be used in the first place for the sick and wounded Yeomen, but be subject to local Military requirements; officers and men from all other branches of the Service will thus be admitted whenever there is room available.

The original plan was for 150 beds; the Committee are now urged by the Authorities to have 520 beds; for this, £50,000 at least is required. They appeal, therefore, to the public to help them, either in subscription, or in donation in kind. If garments are sent, they should be cut, according to St. John's Ambulance List. If by the equipment of a bed, £50 equips one bed, and it can be called after donor, or locality where money is collected.

H.R.H. the Princess of Wales has made the following donations to the Hospital:—£50 for a bed to be called the "Alexandra" bed, 30 mattresses made by a firm in Denmark, and approved by Sir John Furley, and, furthermore, Her Royal Highness sends £250 from the Ladies' Kennel Association.

The first to respond to the appeal was the Lord Mayor, by sending from the Transvaal Fund £1,000.

Various firms are generously coming forward with offers of Glass, Medical Appliances, Wines, etc.

The following articles are needed:—Armslings: splints: crutches: common drugs: surgical dressings, gauze, wool bandages, rubber tubing: jaconet: adhesive plaster: soap: sponges: hot water bottles (rubber): surgical sterilisers: boxes of carpenter's tools: baskets: baths (including arm and leg baths): knives: spoons: stoves: lanterns: operating tables and operating theatre fittings: clocks: spirit lamp food warmers: large sterilisers (Aymard) for milk: air cushions: air beds: water beds: fracture

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