

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Miss Harriette E. G. Hamilton has been appointed Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital, London. Miss Hamilton was trained in the Nightingale School of Nurses in connection with St. Thomas's, entering in 1886, and was given charge as Sister of Christian Ward in 1888. In 1892 she became Matron of the Carlisle Infirmary; Matron of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, in 1894, where she remained five years. In 1899 Miss Hamilton was selected for the important position of Matron to the University College Hospital, London, which post she resigns to take up the still more important position of Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital and Superintendent of the Nightingale School of Nurses.

Miss Elizabeth Keith has been appointed Matron of the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, has held the position of Night Sister at the General Hospital, Colchester, and for eighteen months has been Assistant Matron at the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest.

Miss Margaret Sleep has been appointed Matron of the St. Catherine's Cottage Hospital, Clun, Salop. She was trained at the Hospital for Women and Children at Leeds, and the General Infirmary, Chichester, and has since gained experience both in convalescent and district nursing.

Miss Beatrice Stuart Monteith has been appointed Superintendent of Nurses at the Brooklyn Hospital, Brooklyn, New York, to succeed Miss M. I. Merritt. Miss Monteith is a graduate of this school, and has held the position of Assistant Superintendent for two years. The resignation of Miss Merritt, following so soon on those of Miss Agnes Brennan, of Bellevue, and Miss Sutcliffe, of the New York Hospital, makes one more serious loss to the American nursing world.

CHARGE NURSE.

Miss Ida Cruickshank has been appointed Charge Nurse at the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and has held the position of Head Nurse at the Tynemouth Jubilee Infirmary, North Shields.

SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

Miss Fanny Buxton has been appointed Superintendent Nurse to the Workhouse Infirmary, Hitchin. She was trained at the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, for three years, and has since acted as Nurse at the Fever Hospital, Monsall, Manchester, Southwark Infirmary, Croydon Infirmary, and as Superintendent at the Oulton Infirmary, Lowestoft.

The Education of Nurses.*

By MISS M. A. NUTTING,

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While the question of nursing education is beset at every turn with urgent problems, no one of these probably transcends in importance that aspect of the matter which, because we do not quite know what to do with it, we call the "Preliminary Education of Nurses." As such it has claimed an increasing amount of our thought and attention during the last few years, and has been made the subject of a few interesting and instructive experiments. In a recent number of the *American Journal of Nursing* (March, 1901) the writer attempted to describe briefly the methods used in those schools in which a course of preliminary instruction has been established—viz., the Glasgow Royal Infirmary, the London Hospital, the Dublin Technical School for Nurses, and, in America, the Waltham School in Massachusetts. Since that date an effort has been made to test the value of such a course of preparatory instruction in the Johns Hopkins Hospital School for Nurses at Baltimore, and a class of pupils was admitted on that basis in September of last year. This plan of work has therefore been in operation but little more than six months, and no just estimate of its value can yet be formed, but in view of the increasing interest shown in the matter the writer has acceded to repeated requests to give some details of the work as carried on here.

The outline of the scheme for this preparatory teaching includes as subjects "household economics," with special reference to the study of foods; "hygiene and sanitation," "anatomy and physiology," "materia medica," and the "elements of nursing." The time set apart for this course of study and practical work is six months, which is considered a probationary period. Ability to enter the wards and to proceed with her professional education depends upon the pupil's passing the required examinations and tests in the foregoing subjects, and also upon her having proved her fitness to enter from the important standpoints of physical strength and temperament, personal characteristics and habits. Probationers who are found to be quite unequal to the work and study or are unsatisfactory from other standpoints are dropped from the course within a few weeks, as under previous systems. Pupils receive board, lodging, and a reasonable amount of laundry work from date of entrance, uniforms being supplied them by the hospital when they are accepted as pupil nurses. Text-books and stationery are provided from the beginning. The

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