

delay. A number of names would soon be got together, and it was not necessary to delay more than two or three months.

Dr. Sidney Coupland said he would propose that the Charter should be referred back to the Executive Committee for further consideration.

Dr. Belford Fenwick seconded this.

Mr. Sibley proposed as an amendment that the consideration of the Royal Charter be deferred until the Register was incorporated and established.

There was considerable discussion on both propositions, and finally both were amalgamated and agreed to.

A CHAT WITH PROBATIONERS.

YOU who are Probationers have taken up what is most likely to be your vocation in life, providing you prove strong enough for the work. Some of you wish to become Trained Nurses so that you may earn your living, others for the love of so noble a duty; but I hope all of you who are about to read my paper, have taken into careful consideration what a responsible position you are likely to hold in the world; for what can need more study, self-denial, and patience than the care of the sick? Your nursing may mean life or death to hundreds of souls before you enter into the presence of God.

Before I touch on any subject of duty connected with nursing the sick, I am going to give you a motto to remember through your work; it is short, but if you keep it always in your mind it will greatly help you. "Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness" (1 Tim. vi. 11). Take these points of character separately, study them when you have a few quiet moments, and you will find they are all specially needed in attending the sick and suffering.

Now let us touch on one of the most important qualifications for success as a Nurse, namely, "quietness."

Endeavour from the commencement of your training to cultivate the habit of walking about the Wards quietly; it is quite as easy, and far less fatiguing to yourself and others, to step lightly; and if you notice you will find many Nurses are very heavy walkers. Try to imagine your patient is *very* ill, and cannot bear the slightest sound, and you will soon become accustomed to do things quietly. Remember there is a great difference in being quiet and dawdling.

Once knew a Trained Nurse at a case where the patient was very ill, and the former, to avoid the servants entering the room (at her own suggestion, and, no doubt, meant kindly enough),

swept the room; but it was done so slowly that the patient seemed far more tired of the constant little brushing than she did of the usual housemaid's quick, but noisy sweep.

Avoid whispering. What is not intended for the sick patient's ear is not to be mentioned in the sick room at all, and you may make invalids quite unhappy by indulging in so bad a habit. They will imagine, perhaps, that their illness is more serious than you admit to them, or that you are complaining to others that they are fanciful, &c. Do not go to the other extreme and speak loudly, or harshly, but recollect the voice needs as much training as many other important subjects claiming your attention, before you are duly qualified for your position.

Strive to keep calm and collected as much as possible at all times. You may one day be at an urgent case where you will be the only one who knows how to act; and to make the time more trying, those around you, who know nothing, will be giving their ideas and suggestions. If you become flurried, and lose control over yourself, what will become of the patient? And if you show your alarm, how much more must be added to the mental agony of the suffering one?

I have just spoken of friends giving their suggestions, and it leads me on to say, "Do not be too ready to suggest yourself." An officious Nurse is a great trouble to Doctors, patients, and friends. It is your duty to follow out orders, not to dictate them; you are placed in your position to obey, and not to order. Remember the wise saying of Thomas à Kempis: "It is far safer to obey than to govern."

But the most trying time for you to keep quiet will be perhaps when some one wrongs you, judges you falsely, takes your good deeds for evil, and tries their utmost to take away your name. You may not have to go through so severe a trial, but if it comes, keep silence, do not attempt to contradict or argue with them, show that you are sustained by a higher than earthly power, pray for patience, and remember "A soft answer turneth away wrath." ADA BEATRICE TYSON.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following, as many of our readers may be glad of the information:—"Melbourne Home for Trained Nurses.—Wanted, Nurses for the above. Medical and Surgical Nurses, £40 per annum; General Nurses, able to take maternity cases, £45 per annum. Each Nurse receives, besides her salary, a bonus of fifteen per cent. upon all money earned by her for the Home. For further particulars, apply to Mrs. Mylne, 122, Gloucester Terrace, Hyde Park, W."

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