

Miss E. Glover, Hon. Secretary of the V.T.N.A., writing from Melbourne, says:—

"Some of the pupils passed *extremely* well, a great many did well, and two or three barely came up to the required standard. As the candidates had not been educated under the new curriculum formulated by the V.T.N.A., the standard naturally could not be as high as we hope to bring it.

"Until 1905, it is not compulsory for nurses trained in hospitals containing over forty beds to be examined by the Conjoint Board, so it speaks well for the success of the Association that at its first examination thirty-five pupils should voluntarily come forward before the Conjoint Board. A special certificate will be presented to all who pass the final examination recognised by the Council. The work will be very severe in the small country hospitals, where very little real training has been attempted, and where in some cases the Matron, although a trained nurse, is not either a well-educated woman or a good theoretical nurse. There are very few good organisers in the nursing profession in Victoria, and the really good Ward Sisters (I mean teachers) are few and far between. Most of the experienced nurses have had to acquire their knowledge as they went along, and, therefore, have missed the discipline and methodical teaching and training of our own large hospitals. The actual nursing is frequently very good, but the general management is poor."

Sex Qualification Out of Date.

We are officially informed that the British Gynæcological Society does not admit women to its Fellowship, as we reported last week. We were aware that up to a recent date it had not done so, but in the first volume of *The Woman's Library*, dealing with Education and Professions, published this year by Messrs. Chapman and Hall, in an article on "Medicine as a Profession for Women," by Dr. Ethel Lamport, is the following paragraph:—

"As regards medical societies, only one, the Gynæcological Society, admits women, and has admitted them to its Fellowship; the others exclude women from their meetings." We based our remarks on this information, assuming that the Society had recently decided to confer on women the advantages of its Fellowship; we regret to learn this is not the case, and we hope that the influence of those Fellows who support the principle of admitting all fully-qualified gynæcologists to the privilege of membership, irrespective of their sex, may soon prevail.

As we learn that the London Obstetrical Society has recently admitted medical women as members, we conclude Dr. Lamport intended to refer to this Society.

Nursing Echoes.

* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



As May 8th proves to be a more convenient date for the Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, it will be held in London on that date, instead of on May 1st, as originally proposed. Miss Louisa Stevenson, President of the Society, will preside, and as there are many important points for discussion, the meeting promises to be of exceptional interest. We hope, therefore, that all members of the Society will make a note of the date and keep the day free. We must muster in good force. If all members would help forward the object of the Society by bringing it to the notice of other nurses, and advising them to apply for membership, the roll of those supporting the movement would soon assume large dimensions.

Miss Florence Nightingale is now the only survivor of the three founders of the Herbert Hospital at Woolwich, recently visited by the King and Queen.

All Sisters and nurses know that, in sending home a patient after a serious illness, more than half the battle, if he is not to return on their hands, is to send him out warmly clad. How and where warm garments are to be procured is often a puzzle. The family exchequer, drained dry by the illness of the breadwinner, cannot provide them, and there is so great a demand on the hospital store cupboard dealing with convalescents that its shelves are often empty. Therefore, the work of that useful Society, the Flannel Shirt Club, which helps to supply shirts to necessitous working men on their discharge from medical wards in the general hospitals of London, is greatly appreciated by those institutions which benefit by its labours. The Club pleads for new members to enable the Committee to meet the needs of the poorest hospitals. The conditions of membership are that each working member subscribes one shilling a year, and undertakes to provide at least one flannel shirt annually; honorary members subscribe half-a-crown a year, and undertake to provide at least two flannel shirts annually. Gifts of flannel are also gladly received by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Gethen, Stanley House, Bow Road, London, E., who has shirts made up by reliable poor women, who are thankful for the work. One and-sixpence

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)