

widows, not those who are compelled to work to support themselves and their families.

THE NURSING STAFF.

She further insists that a nursing school to be efficient must be placed under a woman as superintendent. The greatest care should be exercised in her appointment, but, once appointed, the management of the nursing service should be entrusted to her. The admission and dismissal of pupils should be in her hands. In the case of certificated nurses, she should select them for appointments, but the appointments should rest with the Administration, with the consent of the visiting surgeon or physician. They must remain always under the authority of the directress, who must have power to enforce disciplinary measures if necessary. In Dr. Hamilton's opinion, one of the greatest obstacles in France to the establishment of schools of nurses, of a desirable stamp, is the presence in the wards of students of medicine, who for many years past have been accustomed to consider nurses as persons with whom they can often amuse themselves, and whom they but rarely respect. For this reason the creation of nursing schools in hospitals not connected with Universities, offers superior advantages, favouring the recruiting of desirable pupils. It will, adds Dr. Hamilton, be necessary for the Administrative Commission to confer with the authorities of Universities in order to exact good behaviour from students towards the nursing staff, carefully using disciplinary measures, such as suspension or definite exclusion from the hospital, such as are possible in London, and have permitted the establishment of nursing schools without difficulty.

CONCLUSIONS.

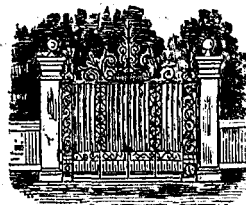
The conclusions at which Dr. Hamilton arrives are :

1. Professional instruction in nursing only yields good results in the case of educated persons.
2. This professional instruction cannot be given by lectures only. It consists principally in training suitable pupils in the different branches of work in a hospital in rotation, and under the direction of competent trained nurses.
3. Nurse-training schools should be organised, preferably in hospitals unconnected with Universities, so as to allow a wider field for practical work for nursing pupils; only certificated nurses should be placed in clinical hospitals.
4. The theoretical instruction given should be very simple, comprising few lectures. Practical applications of the lessons should be required, and cross-examinations upon them, of which the notes should be considered in the final examination.
5. Success in examinations should not alone qualify for the diploma; the notes received of the practical lectures should have a value superior to that of the examinations.
6. The nurse (both certificated and in the pupil stage) should be placed exclusively under the authority of a woman, herself possessed of technical knowledge, and possessing the power of compelling the respect of the staff entrusted to her supervision.
7. Nurses in training should not in the future be paid, being considered solely as pupils, either paying or holding scholarships. This would allow suitable salaries to be paid to those who, when their training is concluded, wish to remain in the hospitals in charge of wards.

We should advise all who are interested in progressive movements to obtain this pamphlet.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



The determined exclusion of women as elected members on the new Educational Authority for London has been hotly protested against by various influential bodies during the past week. At the Annual Conference of the Women's National Liberal Association, Mrs. Bryce, who was in the chair, spoke plainly on the matter, and Mrs. Corrie Grant remarked that "To be co-opted by a set of men against whom there is no appeal is a very uncomfortable and undignified position." To sum up the arguments of the various speakers, it was clearly shown that—

- (1) There were nine women elected on the London School Board, but that there would be none on the new Authority, however many were co-opted on to its committee.
- (2) That women were necessary and useful to the children, the pupil teachers, and the women teachers in many ways not open to men; and
- (3) That there were 180 centres of cooking, 138 centres for laundry work, and twenty-five centres of "housewife" teaching which would have to get on without them, as would the industrial schools, residential homes, and boarded-out children.

At the stupendous demonstration in Hyde Park, on Saturday, women spoke from several platforms against the Education Bill, amongst them Mrs. Homan and Miss Eve, members of the present London School Board, whose splendid services have resulted in so much practical good to London's children, and Dr. Clifford with fiery eloquence said: "The Bill was a dastardly and unmanly attack on women. It would rob women of the right conferred on them by the Act of 1870, and it was one of the greatest insults which the Government had ever flung in the face of women. As the husband of his wife and the son of his mother he would fight against it to the uttermost." The following resolution was passed with wild cheers by the thousands of men and women who were massed in the park:—

"That this mass meeting of citizens of London emphatically condemns the Education Bill now before Parliament, because it destroys the London School Board, excludes women from election to the education authority, imposes religious tests on the teachers, and does not provide for the free teaching of elementary, technical, and higher-grade education in suitable day and evening schools entirely controlled and administered by a body directly elected for that purpose."

The students of Girton College, Cambridge, have gone into occupation of the new buildings, which have been erected at a cost of £57,000. The outlay has been partly met by donations to the capital fund, amounting to £14,000, and by legacies and accumulated profits; there still remains to be provided a balance of about £30,000.

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