

with the hardest, strictest Hindu, or most bigoted Mohammedan? Nurse is an oracle on things pertaining to the body, is asked for, sought for, and listened to. Instances come to mind of more than one Brahmin house where Christian nurses have stayed, properly protected and respectfully treated. And before many days went by, the patient has wished to share her nurse's Bible-reading, and has asked questions, proving that the Christian life lived before her in her own home has roused curiosity, interest, and wonder.

"Given, then, that an Indian Christian nurse is thoroughly trained and her work afterwards well superintended, such a woman may do much for the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ, and we foreign missionaries are grateful indeed if we are allowed to take part in fitting her for such a sphere."

An earnest worker in Indian Mission Hospitals writes:—

"I need not try to enlist your interest on behalf of nurses and nursing. Here in our Mission Hospitals we are having a very inferior set of women, or, I should rather say, girls, for they are only seventeen years of age when taken in to take up nursing, and very often only two or three years out of heathenism. You can imagine how difficult it is to get along with such children, and, of course, it is not their fault. The better class think nursing very low and menial work, and, to help to breakdown this idea and to get the better class of natives interested, I want your help. The Isabella Thorburn College for native girls is here. The Principal is quite willing that nursing be brought before the students. Miss Cornall, our doctor here, gave them a lecture on nursing not long ago. To follow this I should like to give some books, not on nursing, but on the noted women who have taken up nursing, such as 'The Life of Florence Nightingale.' Yet I cannot pay high prices for the books, as I am only a missionary nurse, but the nursing is laid heavy on my heart here."

We do not think this devoted woman will make her needs known to the readers of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING in vain. We propose that some of our readers should send us a list of such books as they think would meet the needs of the case and awaken interest and reverence for the great pioneers of women's spheres of work in the minds of the native nurses in our great Indian Empire. We will then set about procuring the books, and, as we imagine there is quite a little library of such records, perhaps we may hope for a little financial help from our readers, so that we may send the seed, as a free gift to our missionary sister, who will sow, and tend the sprouts on the spot.

### The 'Registered Nurses' Society.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Registered Nurses' Society, held on Wednesday, a most satisfactory report was presented. Fifteen new candidates have been accepted on probation, and Sisters Shrimpton and Teevan, cert. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Sister Parry, cert. East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn, were elected to full membership. The receipts for the present month were reported to be the record amount earned by the Society since its inception.

## Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The board of delegates of the Metropolitan Hospital Fund on Saturday resolved to distribute £20,252 4s. in the following proportions:—

|                               |            |    |
|-------------------------------|------------|----|
| 29 General hospitals          | ... £7,400 | 18 |
| 13 Cottage hospitals          | ... 283    | 8  |
| 61 Special hospitals          | ... 6,180  | 19 |
| 32 Dispensaries               | ... 971    | 19 |
| 23 Convalescent homes         | ... 1,838  | 18 |
| 27 Miscellaneous institutions | 3,576      | 2  |

The principal awards were as follows:—

|                    |            |               |          |
|--------------------|------------|---------------|----------|
| London             | ... £1,097 | Seamen's      | ... £323 |
| St. Mary's         | ... 540    | Royal Free    | ... 290  |
| Middlesex          | ... 429    | G. N. Central | ... 276  |
| King's College     | ... 391    | Charing Cross | ... 270  |
| University College | ... 388    | Metropolitan  | ... 258  |
| Guy's              | ... 386    | West London   | ... 230  |
| St. George's       | ... 360    | Temperance    | ... 206  |
| Westminster        | ... 358    | St. Thomas's  | ... 180  |

Among the awards to special hospitals and institutions are the following:—Brompton (cancer), £193; Brompton (chest), £475; City of London, £457; Mount Vernon, £491; Royal, City Road, £442; Eversfield Convalescent Home, £412; Hospital Saturday Fund Distribution Committee (inclusive of additional grant for 1902), £1,750; and Surgical Appliance Committee, £1,200.

The Riviera memorial to Queen Victoria will be proceeded with at an early date. The cottage hospital established in Her Majesty's memory will contain ten beds, of which two are already endowed in perpetuity by the American community, who have collected £2,000 for a building fund. Sir J. Blundell Maple has given the architect's plans for the building and has guaranteed a tenth of the money for the purchase of the land and the maintenance of the institution for two years. The hospital is to be situated at Cimiez, and it is hoped that its foundation-stone will soon be laid.

The Princess of Wales has granted her patronage to a concert which will be held at the Queen's Hall on the afternoon of Thursday, May 28th, in aid of the Children's Hospital, at Paddington Green. Her Royal Highness has expressed her wish to be present if future engagements permit.

The twenty-first Congress and Exhibition of the Sanitary Institute will be held at Bradford, commencing July 7th, 1903.

The eleventh International Congress of Hygiene and Demography will be held in Brussels from the 2nd to the 8th of September, under the patronage of the King of the Belgians. The Secretary-General of the Congress is Professor Dr. F. Putzeys. All information can be obtained from Dr. Paul F. Moline, 42, Walton Street, Chelsea, hon. secretary of the British Committee.

The curators of the University of Edinburgh have appointed Sir W. Turner, K.C.B., Professor of Anatomy in the University, to the principalship rendered vacant by Sir William Muir's retirement.

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