

A stained-glass window, subscribed for by the past and present nurses of the Staffordshire Institution for Nurses, to the memory of the late Miss Mary Shirley, Lady Superintendent of the Nurses' Home and member of the Matrons' Council, has been erected in St. Barnabas Church, Stoke-on-Trent. The subject is Mary seated at the feet of the Saviour. The Bishop of Shrewsbury, chairman and treasurer of the institution, conducted the dedication ceremony.

A young woman named Susan Laura Hodgkinson, a nurse at the Infirmary, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, was found unconscious on the London and North-Western Railway between Crewe and Stockport on Monday. She is supposed to have leaped from the London express. A letter, addressed to the Coroner, found in her pocket, stated that she intended to destroy herself. Her reason for the act was pathetic: "When you are ill, and no money, you don't like to sponge on your people or relations, although they have all been so kind in coming forward to help me. I was one for work, and have always been so strong." Poor girl! Indeed, the heart was overcharged. She died in the cottage hospital at Crewe on Tuesday.

That rich and gay town, Brighton, does not enjoy an enviable reputation where charity is concerned, although there are, of course, some most generous individuals dwelling therein. Failing sufficient support, the Brighton, Hove, and Preston Branch of the Queen's Nurses last week held a most splendid Bazaar at the Dome and Corn Exchange, at the opening ceremony of which the work of the nurses came in for a generous meed of praise. We hope the institution will benefit largely by the Bazaar; as it is somewhat disheartening to find really good work so little appreciated year after year by the inhabitants of so wealthy a town as Brighton.

The Tain District Nursing Association are to present Nurse Macdonald, on the occasion of her marriage, with a handsome Queen Anne tea service in recognition of her excellent services.

Nursing matters in this country are sometimes complicated by religious bias; but the situation fades into insignificance by the side of the acute phases which it assumes in Ireland. For instance, at the monthly meeting of the Tyrone County Hospital, Omagh, Mgr. M'Namee said he had some years ago complained that the nurses, who were all Protestants, were going through the place cursing the Pope over and over again.

The gist of the matter to Mgr. M'Namee seems to lie in the fact that it was the Pope who was cursed. If the Archbishop of Canterbury had been the object of the nurses' imprecations their offence would presumably have been less heinous. To us the crux of the situation is the fact that the

nurses go about the hospital cursing anybody, whether King, Pope, or Great Mogul. As we cannot credit the statement, we prefer, until a direct instance is brought forward, to consider that Mgr. M'Namee's zeal for the honour of the Holy Father is so absorbing that on certain points he has become the victim of hallucination.

Sister Auguste-Françoise, one of the nuns expelled from the Maritime Hospital of Toulon, has returned to M. Pelletan her cross of the Legion of Honour conferred on her by the late President Félix Faure, on the recommendation of M. Lockroy.

Mrs. Nisbet, of the Government General Hospital, Madras, is about to avail herself of twelve months' furlough, which she intends spending in the lovely climate of Japan. After seventeen years' work in hot, dusty Madras this will be, indeed, a change. Miss M. Johnston, Mrs. Nisbet's assistant, will act as Matron Superintendent during the latter's absence.

## The Progress of State Registration.

The New York State Nurses' Association met in New York City on October 20th, Miss Annie Rhodes, the president, in the chair. During the afternoon session, Dr. A. T. Bristow, of Brooklyn, gave a very forceful address on the subject of "Registration and What it has Done for the Medical Profession." Then followed an able address by Miss Delano, Superintendent of Bellevue Training-School, subject "Registration for Nurses."

The trained nurses of Minnesota are forming State organisation to secure registration.

*Una*, the organ of the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association, says that in Victoria the medical profession worked harder than the nurses to obtain Registration; those few physicians who conducted private hospitals offered only slight opposition to the refusal of the Association to recognise pupils trained in such institutions. This is satisfactory, and we hope in the near future that the Medical Faculty will complete their good work of helping to organise a voluntary system of registration by securing for it the hall-mark of State authority.

The *American Journal of Nursing*, in referring to this matter, says: "Certainly our best medical men supported us nobly in our demand for legal status in the United States; now it remains to be seen what attitude the English physicians will take towards the Registration effort."

From the recent expressions of opinion in the *British Medical Journal* there are signs that it will be as kindly as in our colonies and the States. We would ask our Colonial and American sisters not to estimate the feeling of the medical profession in England on this question by the actions of the Honorary Officers of the R.B.N.A.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)