

of women on the male side of other asylums since their introduction as a result of Dr. Turnbull's successful pioneer experiment in 1896. It is trying, however, to bear with misrepresentation of a work of reform. It has been suggested, for example, that women have been employed instead of men because their wages were less. It is, therefore, necessary to state explicitly that this was not regarded as a reason at all for their employment on the male side here. It cannot be denied that the services of four women can be obtained at the same cost as those of three men only, and one woman does as much work as a man when it comes to sick nursing, personal attendance, bed-making, care of clothing, and household duties generally, and as this work is 'natural and habitual' to her, she probably does it better. It must also be admitted that no other important advance in asylum management that I know of is attended by a diminution and not an increase in expenditure. Nevertheless, I do not imagine the public will regard this feature of the system with serious disapproval if in other respects it is satisfactory. It may be interesting to mention that the saving effected here by the system was put to immediate use, and enabled us, without adding to our wages bill, to add to the numbers of our night staff. This accession of strength enabled us to abolish altogether that 'baneful' and unmedical practice to which His Majesty's Commissioner has referred, of habitually locking up patients at night in single rooms like prisoners—patients who were placed in our hands for care and supervision and for the treatment of a disease, and who, for want of an adequate staff, required to be kept in solitary confinement for ten hours out of every twenty-four."

It must surely be admitted by the most prejudiced and conservative persons that Dr. Robertson has made out a good case for the employment of rational methods in the care of the insane, of the value of the services of women nurses, and of the economy of efficient nursing, a fact which has over and over again been proved. Let us hope that the light which is dawning at Stirling may be spread far and wide.

War Honours.

"A VERY SPECIAL CASE."

The *Gazette* of Friday last contains an addendum to the despatch dated April 2nd, 1901, from Earl Roberts, K.G., G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for War, published in the *London Gazette* of April 16th, containing names of those who should be included in the lists of those brought to notice "for meritorious services performed."

The King has sanctioned these addenda to the final *Gazette* of Honours for South Africa as a very special case, and in consequence of the despatches in which the services of the Natal Local Forces were brought to notice having miscarried during the transfer of the Command-in-Chief in South Africa from Field Marshal Lord Roberts to General Lord Kitchener.

Amongst those whose services are thus recognised are two nurses—Nurse J. Bradbury and Nurse

C. Addison, of the Natal Volunteer Medical Corps, to whom we tender hearty congratulations on this unexpected honour.

Nursing Examination at the Kingston Infirmary.

The first three probationers who have completed their training in the Nursing School at the Kingston Union Infirmary, in Medical, Surgical, and Midwifery Nursing, have passed their final examination with credit, and gained their certificates.

The report of the examiner is appended.

EXAMINATION OF NURSES, KINGSTON INFIRMARY,
NOVEMBER 30TH, 1903.

I submitted the nurses herein named—

Gibbs, Florence,

Holland, J.,

Morley, Ellen Louise,

to a written and *vidæ voce* examination, and found all three to be worthy of certificates of proficiency. The knowledge of Anatomy and Physiology they displayed was excellent, and much above the average. The subjects of ventilation, ward accommodation, and hospital hygiene had been well taught. Practical nursing and the personal care of the sick the candidates have thoroughly mastered. In every branch of nursing, theoretical and practical, I found the nurses proficient.

JAMES CANTLIE, M.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Surgeon Seamen's Hospital, Albert Dock, E.,
Lect. Applied Anatomy, Charing Cross Hospital,
Lect. Surgery, London School of Tropical Medicine,
Formerly Surgeon Charing Cross Hospital.

The nurses have also gained the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society. We congratulate them, as well as the Matron of the Infirmary, Miss J. A. Smith, on this excellent record of three years work.

American Alertness.

Six hundred American women have offered their services as nurses to Japan in the event of war with Russia. Mr. Sakahira, the Japanese Minister, has, in the Japanese Diet, expressed himself deeply impressed with the offer.

The Passing Bell.

We record with regret the death, which has recently occurred at Derby, of Miss Cupiss, the Hon. Lady Superintendent of the Hospital for Sick Children, Derby. She was the daughter of a Derbyshire clergyman, and her main interest was to alleviate the sufferings of little children. It was chiefly by her generosity the Derbyshire Hospital for Sick Children was founded twenty-six years ago. During the whole of this period she acted as Hon. Lady Superintendent, and not only declined to take a salary, but contributed largely to the funds.

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