

"When it was time for her to have her meals, my chief maid, O'Matsu, a dainty-looking princess of Nature herself, would creep into the room, having shed her sandals at the door, and, after inquiring about my health, would make a deep and graceful obeisance to the Honourable Tiger Miss, and inform her in a respectful whisper that her honourable dinner was ready. The polite little Tiger would jump up, return the bow, ask my leave to depart, and slip out to feed on fish, pickles (such dreadfully strong-smelling pickles), and rice, washed down, as they say in the Waverley Novels, by thimblefuls of green tea or fish soup. After about fifteen minutes of solid feeding, she would return, come to my bedside, and express her gratitude for the meal supplied to her. Then she would drop down on her cushion in the corner, and with the calm unconventionality peculiar to her race let out a couple of holes in her leather belt.

"O'Tara San had the real nurse's gift for feeling the time and waking at the right hour; and for eight days and nights I think she never failed to come to my bedside every two hours to replenish the ice-bags in which I lay. Once she had to go away for two days for some family reason, and so was replaced by a dreadful person, who had never nursed in a European house before, who did not know a warming-pan from a smelling-bottle, and who further irritated me by reading endless Japanese newspapers printed backwards on pink paper. How glad I was when on the afternoon of the second day my little Tiger returned, smiling sweetly as usual, with an enormous sheaf of Japanese pinks in her hand, and looking so nice in her own soft grey silk kimono and sash, instead of the hideous hospital apron and leather belt."

At the present juncture it is of interest to recall that there is at Seoul, in Korea, a well-equipped hospital, established in 1892 by the Sisterhood of St. Peter's, Kilburn. In 1895 two handsome wards were added to the existing buildings by Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, who visited the hospital and became very interested in its work. A well-equipped operating-room has also been built. The present Matron is Miss Robinson, who was trained at Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin, under Miss Huxley.

Requiescat in Pace.

We greatly regret to record the death of the Rev. E. Handley, President of the Royal United Hospital, Bath, and a Vice-President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. The loss sustained by the hospital, which he has served with such splendid devotion, is well-nigh irreparable, and the State Registration Society has lost a supporter whose breadth of sympathy with nurses, as well as his comprehension of their needs, was remarkable. The narrow and intolerant desire to dominate the nurses in the institution over which he presided was wholly foreign to his nature. Rather he desired to see them alive to the responsibilities which devolve upon them as professional women, and conscientiously discharging them. We offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Handley—who associated herself with all her husband's good work—in this time of sorrow.

The Progress of State Registration.

The most able article which has been published on the subject of Registration by a member of the laity is unquestionably the one which appears in the current issue of the *Nineteenth Century and After*, by Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, who is a Vice-President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and a member of its Parliamentary Bills Committee. When we remember that the writer is a great-great-granddaughter of Sheridan, it is not surprising that the article is a brilliant one. It is a most hopeful augury for progress that one so respected in the public and political world as the writer should grasp this intricate question so perfectly, and sum up the situation in such lucid language. It has so far been a matter of the greatest difficulty to get members of lay committees responsible for the organisation of nurse-training schools to understand the educational and industrial aspects of the nursing question. The present article proves that, given a sympathetic interest and a keen intelligence, the question presents no unsurmountable difficulties to the lay mind, and we may hope, therefore, that in the future the governors of hospitals will understand that the better education and organisation of trained nurses is a matter of vital concern to the public. We advise every nurse to read this article, which will well repay careful study.

The writer opens the article by pointing out that:—

"Although many careers have been thrown open to women during the last half-century, and although the proportion of those pressing into clerical and office life is increasing, yet nursing remains one of the leading professions for educated women—whether regarded from the point of view of the numbers engaged in it, or from that of its suitability as a field for the exercise of their special gifts and capabilities.

"It is also unique in being perhaps the only profession unreservedly assigned to women in which their pre-eminent fitness is not disputed, and in which they occupy all the higher positions. In every other line of life women either struggle in ineffectual competition with men, or occupy the subordinate and less well-paid posts."

The article proceeds to show that the nursing profession has practically been created in our own day, and that some of its latest developments have brought it into direct contact with the homes of the people, and converted it into a potent instrument of social progress, so that Mr. Charles Booth, in his book on London, states "it is almost true to say that wherever a nurse enters the standard of life is raised," and he speaks of the advance in this direction as "perhaps the best fruit of the past half-century."

The writer then points out that, whether in the homes of the poor, in connection with our elementary

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