

The Humours of Life.

(AS SEEN BY A DISTRICT NURSE.)

I.

"Well, nurse, if I had £1,000 I would give it all to your institute, for I consider my daughter has been *mercifully preserved all the time you have been coming here.*" Thus spake an old man from a grateful heart when I was leaving his daughter, convalescent, after having attended her at her confinement and in the subsequent days. Little did he know, poor old man, what real cause he had for thankfulness. I was but a new hand at the work in those days, and his daughter was my first case—the first, that is to say, I had taken without midwife or doctor being present, for it was during my training as a midwife that the incident I refer to took place.

II.

"Lor, nurse, she did give me a scare." "Why, what is the matter, now?" I asked, seeing the perturbed state of my patient confined the night before of a beautiful baby boy. "Well, it was this way, our Gwenny she came runnin' in to me. 'Mam,' she says, 'Mam, here's Jesus Christ a-comin'.'" The previous night, when the little baby brother had arrived, I, too, had come, and when the little Gwenny, herself only four years old, had asked 'Who had brought him?' the answer had been 'Jesus Christ.' As I had been the only person outside the family present, she had puzzled it out in her small brain and drawn her own conclusions. Consequently when I was spied the following morning coming down the lane, she had hurried off as fast as her fat little legs would carry her to tell her "Mam" the all-important news. This occurred in Wales where the children call their mothers "Mam."

III.

"Has it got pot feet, nurse?" asked another small child as I was washing the latest arrival. By pot she meant china or porcelain, such as dolls have.

IV.

"What do you think of your little baby brother? Don't you like him very much?" "I don't think I like it very much," he said, jealously. "Oh, do put it down and let it run away." I feel sure he thought it would run away into some hole or corner and not trouble him any more, if only allowed to do so.

V.

Father Healy, an old priest of Bray, was celebrated for his repartee and smart answers. Meeting an old parishioner of his whom he considered a great defaulter in regard to attendance at Mass, &c., he was reproving her for the same, but in so kind and loving a way as to cause the old sinner to exclaim: "Och, father, dear, I wisht I might find ye at the gates of heaven whin I get there, for may be thin ye'd let me in." "Faith thin," he said, "I'm thinkin' it were bather for ye if ye was to find me at the gates of th'other place, for may be thin I'd let ye out."

A. M. DARRAH.

Appointments.

MATRONS.

Hammersmith Parish Infirmary.—Miss Eve Ward has been appointed Matron of the Hammersmith Parish Infirmary, Ducane Road, Wormwood Scrubbs. She was trained at the Salford Union Infirmary, where she subsequently held the position of Ward and of Theatre Sister, and of Night Superintendent. She also held the position of Assistant Matron at the Halifax Union Infirmary.

The Cottage Hospital, Wandsworth.—Miss Isabel C. Sherlock has been appointed Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Wandsworth. She was trained at the Children's Hospital, Liverpool, and was for a time probationer at the Leicester Infirmary, Staff Nurse at St. John's Hospital, Oxford, District Nurse at Maidstone and Stourport, and Matron of the Cottage Hospital, Bourton-on-Water.

Home for Sick Children, Sydenham.—Miss Ray has been appointed Matron at the Home and Infirmary for Sick Children, Lower Sydenham. She was trained at the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway Road, N., and has held the position of Night Superintendent at St. Mark's Hospital, City Road, and of Assistant Matron at the Alexandra Hospital for Children with Hip Disease, Queen's Square, Bloomsbury.

Kent and Tavistock Cottage Hospital.—Miss Lucy Bolton has been appointed Sister-Matron. She was trained at Guy's Hospital, S.E., and also at the Evelina Hospital. She has held the position of Charge Nurse at the Children's Hospital, Paddington Green, Sister at the Salop Infirmary, and Sister at the Royal Infirmary, Bristol.

SISTERS.

West Cumberland Infirmary.—Miss B. W. Stericker has been appointed Sister at the West Cumberland Infirmary, Whitehaven. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and has held the position of Sister at the Children's Hospital, Nottingham.

Lewisham Infirmary.—Miss Annie W. Gooding has been appointed Ward Sister at the Lewisham Infirmary. She was trained at the Poplar Hospital, E.

NURSE.

The Cottage Hospital, Wandsworth.—Miss M. Watson has been appointed Nurse at the Cottage Hospital, Wandsworth. She was trained at the London Hospital, E.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

POSTINGS AND TRANSFERS AT HOME.—*Sister*: Miss L. M. Moor from Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, to Military Hospital, Chatham.

Staff Nurse: Miss E. B. Darnell to Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, on appointment.

POSTINGS AND TRANSFERS ABROAD.—*Staff Nurse*: Miss M. E. Neville to Malta, on expiration of sick leave.

RESIGNATIONS.—Miss A. E. Tait, Matron, resigns her appointment and is granted permission to retain the badge of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, in recognition of her meritorious service.

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