

Brush and comb the hair, arranging it as nearly as possible in its accustomed fashion. If necessary, replace the eye pads and the roller beneath the chin, but remove them altogether as soon afterwards as possible. Put on the stockings, tie the knees together, straighten the nightdress in front, place beneath the feet the small chamber towel, rolling it up in the same manner as the roller towels; cover the face with a nice pocket handkerchief, cross the hands reverently upon the breast placing a flower in or upon them, then cover the whole with a clean sheet. Clear away all soiled linen, nursing appliances, medicine bottles, etc., and make the room look as neat as possible, if there has been a fire have the grate done and the room dusted, leave the window open a little at the top all the time.

If the nurse is asked to stay on until after the funeral she should take charge of the room, being the first to enter in the morning and the last to go in at night; sometimes the relatives like her to keep the key of the room so that she knows who goes in and out, but this should not be done without first consulting the friends.

Then the nurse must accompany the undertaker when he takes the measurements, when the body is coffined and also when it is screwed down, the men who do this work are not without a certain amount of morbid curiosity therefore the nurse should say that the face is not to be uncovered; she should also instruct them how to lift the body with the towels which she has placed beneath for this purpose, and to withdraw them after the body is in the coffin, in this way the handling of one's nearest and dearest by strangers is reduced to a minimum.

When the body is coffined cover the coffin with a clean sheet, straighten the bed and cover it with a sheet if necessary. Should there be at any time swelling or discolouration of the face the friends should be warned and notice sent to the undertaker to come and close the coffin. For it is but natural that the relatives should wish to retain the pleasantest image in their minds of their beloved dead, and by always being the first visitor in the morning the nurse can save them these unpleasantnesses.

Should the nurse have to see after some of the business details incident to such occasions it is well for her to know that the medical man must be notified of the death as soon after as possible, he will then send the certificate of death. This must be taken to the Registrar of Deaths as soon after as may be—according to the law it must be within five days. He will write out a certificate, which must be shown to the clergyman who takes the service. Some-

times the Registrar's office is a long distance away and his hours of attendance inconvenient, and although the nearest relative present at the time is expected to notify him, yet sometimes this is not possible; therefore the nurse, being present, can legally do so, and so occupy some of her spare time in doing this, to the friends, rather trying duty.

Although these things do not come actually under the heading of nursing, yet it is surely a nurse's duty to comfort and help the sorrowing, even if it is only by doing odd bits of business for them.

If the nurse leaves the case immediately after the patient's death, she should instruct some member of the household upon the use of the towels and why they are placed there, not forgetting to remark that many men do not know why they are there and must be told how to use them.

If these sad duties are carried out always with the knowledge that the "body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost," then indeed will the nurse be not only a blessing in sickness, but a true help and comfort to those who mourn.

Certified Midwives' Total Abstinence League.

The Annual Meeting of the above League will be held on the afternoon of Friday, October 26th, at the Chapter House of St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C. The meeting will commence at 3.30 p.m.; tea at 4.30. All who would like to visit the Crypt should meet Miss Gregory on the steps of the West front of the Cathedral at 2.45 p.m.

The chair will be taken by Dr. Annie McCall, the President, and the speakers will include Miss Le Geyt, Miss Gregory and Miss Mary Hughes. All midwives, both members and non-members, are very heartily invited, also associates, monthly nurses, and any others who care to come.

Presentation to Miss Medill.

A presentation to Miss Medill, who is retiring from the position of Matron at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, will be made in the Board room of the hospital on Thursday, November 1st, at 5.30 p.m. It will take the form of a silver bowl, an album of autographs of the past and present Sisters and nurses who have joined in the testimonial, an album containing their photographs and a purse of gold. Miss Medill is very popular with the nurses she has trained, and much sorrow is expressed at her resignation.

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