

to do. He advocated, therefore, that a first-class Trained Nurse should be appointed for a group of adjacent villages, and that under her should be collected as large a staff as possible of women of the class he had named, to whom the Nurse could give instruction, and who under her supervision could do a very great deal of good.

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MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, who was called upon to second the resolution, briefly sketched the improvement which had taken place in Nursing matters within the last twenty years. She said that this really dated from the publication, by Miss Florence Nightingale, of her classical "Notes on Nursing," because therein the first principles of Nursing were, for the first time, laid down, and the cardinal dependence of the work upon clearly defined scientific rules made manifest to all men. From this followed, as a matter of course, improved education of Nurses, and women were regularly taught the art, not, as before, left to learn it how and when they could.

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MRS. FENWICK then showed how the practice of Nursing had advanced in usefulness from the days when Miss Agnes Jones—to whose memory and work she paid an eloquent tribute—was sent from St. Thomas's to take charge of the Liverpool Workhouse Infirmary; and incidentally she called attention to the great debt both the public and Nurses owed to Mr. Rathbone for his indefatigable efforts to improve nursing knowledge and efficiency. From this the speaker noted that Hospital Nursing, Infirmary Nursing, and District Nursing in our great towns had each steadily advanced in public usefulness and estimation, and drew from the review the conclusions that it was full time that similar benefits were extended to dwellers in our country districts; and just as she had shown that only the best nursing had been of any value in towns, so she urged the new Association, for its own sake, and for those it was going to assist, to be content with nothing but the best. Of course, a good article cost money, but she argued that, in a matter of life and death, the best was really the cheapest.

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LADY VICTORIA LAMBTON read a short account of how she worked a parish in South Wales; what the cost of everything was; how the Nurse gradually won her way and became a recognised and much valued institution; and supported the resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

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MR. MARTIN, the Treasurer of the Association, then went into details as to the proposed organi-

sation, which may be briefly summarised thus:—A village, or a group of villages, will be overlooked by a small Committee, who will appoint a Trained Midwife and Nurse, supervise, and pay her, and assist her in her work, by helping individual cases with such gifts as they require. The Committees in each county will be under the control of a central body, who again will be under the control of a General Council of Management for the whole Kingdom. Mr. Martin proposed the second resolution:—"That the provisional scheme of the Rural Nursing Association has the approval of this meeting as a basis for carrying out its objects, and that it will give the Central Committee of the Association every assistance in forming County Committees, and generally carrying out the scheme." The Earl of Yarborough briefly seconded this, and it was carried unanimously.

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MISS BROADWOOD gave an account of the work she had organised in Cottage Nursing, and advocated the employment only of cottagers who had had three or six months' training. A gentleman—whose name was not given—then raised the question of Midwives, and insisted that they should all be Registered and carefully examined; but as he concluded by expressing his opinion that the Association would find Midwives, who were accustomed to act as charwomen, the best for its purpose in rural districts, considerable amusement was caused, and many afterwards queried the wisdom of elevating charwomen into Midwives. A vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by the Hon. Mrs. Dundas, was carried by acclamation, and the meeting then adjourned. I wish the Association all success, but it evidently requires a few Doctors and Nurses on its organising committee.

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THE other meeting to which I referred was held at the Admiralty last Saturday, by the invitation of Lady George Hamilton, to consider a scheme for a Convalescent and Holiday Fund for Nurses. The large room was crowded to the doors, and many well-known ladies and gentlemen were present. Princess Christian took the chair, and Sir James Paget, the Bishop of Ripon, and Miss Wood advocated the scheme. A large measure of support was promised, and several large subscriptions were announced. But I have no room now for details, which I must reserve until next week.

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I AM glad to be able to note that Miss Catherine Millar, at present engaged as one of the Nursing Sisters at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar,

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