

POOR LAW INFIRMARY NURSES AND
REGISTRATION.

We received too late for insertion last week the following Petition sent by Matrons of Poor Law Infirmaries to certain members of the House of Lords in support of the Nurses' Registration Bill:—

THE POOR LAW MATRONS' PETITION.

We, the undersigned Matrons of the Poor Law Infirmaries, who are intimately connected with the selecting and training of probationers for the infirmary training schools, are firmly persuaded that a system of State Registration for Nurses—defining a minimum standard of training to be followed by a central examination conducted by an independent Board—would be greatly to the advantage of the infirmaries both as training schools and as institutions for the sick.

We feel strongly that such a measure, by tending to remove any demarcation between the training given in the voluntary hospitals and the poor law infirmaries would greatly assist the nursing in the latter institutions by helping to attract suitable candidates who would not enter for training if the certificate did not qualify them for registration.

HARRIET A. ALSOP, Matron of Kensington Infirmary; J. F. BALLANTYNE, Matron of Fulham Infirmary; ELEANOR C. BARTON, Matron of Chelsea Infirmary; E. BRACEWELL, Matron of Mill Road Infirmary, Liverpool; ANNIE BLACKWELL, Matron of Stoke-on-Trent Infirmary; E. M. BYLES, Matron of Lambeth Infirmary; S. J. COCKERELL, Matron of St. Marylebone Infirmary; A. DOWBIGGEN, Matron of Shirley Warren Infirmary, Southampton; E. F. DWIGHT, Matron of Bagthorpe Infirmary; FLORENCE FOYSTER, Matron of Portsmouth Infirmary; ELIZABETH A. GITENS, Matron of Leeds Infirmary; E. R. GRAHAM, Matron of Mile End Infirmary; M. M. HAMPSON, Matron of St. George's Infirmary, Fulham Road; SARAH HANNAFORD, Matron of Stepney and Poplar Sick Asylum; JOAN INGLIS, Matron of Shoreditch Infirmary; JANE JEFFERY, Matron of Stockport Infirmary; ISABEL KEMP, Matron of Southwark Infirmary; S. ELLEN KIDSON, Matron of St. Luke's Infirmary, Halifax; AMELIA LAWSON, Matron of Sheffield Infirmary; CHARLOTTE LEIGH, Matron of Central London Sick Asylum; E. J. MOIR, Matron of St. Pancras Infirmary; ANN C. MOLD, Matron of West Bromwich Infirmary; A. PAGAN, Matron of Croydon Infirmary; ANNIE SIBLEY, Matron of Salford Infirmary; ELMA SMITH, Matron of Central London Sick Asylum, Hendon; E. MAUDE SMITH, Matron of Chorlton Infirmary; J. ADELAIDE SMITH, Matron of Kingston Infirmary; ELIZABETH STEWART, Matron of City of London Infirmary; HELEN TODD, Matron of Wandsworth Infirmary; EVE WARD, Matron of Hammersmith Infirmary; E. A. WESLEY, Matron of St. George's-in-the-East Infirmary; CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS, Matron of Cardiff Infirmary.

We welcome the following donations towards

the expenses of the Registration Bill:—Miss G. Tomlinson, £1; Mrs. Myers, 10s. 6d.

We are glad to learn that Matrons and Nurses in Ireland are organising at once to have their just claim to be registered—on the same terms as their Colleagues in England and Scotland—brought to the notice of the Government. We on this side will help them all we know.

The Massachusetts Bill for State Registration has been defeated, according to the *American Journal of Nursing*, "it was reported favourably to the House, and passed that body successfully, but was defeated in the Senate, mainly by the treachery of a physician who had always seemed a good friend."

REGISTRATION IN AUSTRALASIA.

Registration news from New South Wales is reassuring. On reliable authority it is reported that important changes were contemplated in Dr. Macchellar's Bill before Parliament, that he proposes to withdraw the nursing section of his Bill, and make it deal simply with private hospitals. The two questions are so diverse, they should not be confused. *The Australasian Nurses' Journal*, whilst congratulating the nurses that the immediate danger of an unsatisfactory condition of State registration will have passed away, regrets the opportunity of having a completely satisfactory Bill placed upon the Statute Book. We are glad to learn that the Council of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association does not intend to let the matter rest, and at a meeting summoned the members were to be asked to give an expression of opinion definitely either for or against State registration. Considering the recent attempt made to legislate for them without their consent, it is to be hoped that ere this the nurses in New South Wales have instructed their Council to approach the Legislature upon the question, and to take the necessary steps to have a satisfactory Bill brought before Parliament without delay.

Legal Matters.

The arrest of Mrs. Delia Jane Maxwell, of Irishtown, described as a professional nurse and midwife, in connection with the death of a young farmer living at Clonbonny, near Athlone, has caused considerable sensation in the neighbourhood. At the inquest it was stated that Mrs. Maxwell is a nurse, and wore the dress of a nurse when the fatal accident occurred. It was further stated that she had three stones and "fired" them at the deceased. Subsequent to the inquest Mrs. Maxwell, with other defendants, was formally charged before a magistrate with "causing the death of one Thomas Nally." She was remanded, bail being allowed.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)