

ing and the poor. In the course of his long and useful life he started many good works, one of the greatest being his Societies of Charity of devoted ladies. Out of these grew the Order of the Nursing Sisters, drawn in his life time, from the humbler ranks of life. This Order is at the present time known and honoured all over the world. The old Sister in her blue gown and large white winged cap, who showed us the Hospital, was French, and had lived in Florence for over thirty years. It was sweet to see her with a puny wailing infant in her arms, crooning over it, and soothing it into calmness and sleep. Oh! how terrible, really terrible, are some of the little faces of the new-born babes, with lined foreheads and wizened features, looking a hundred years old. Many of these tiny creatures are a mass of disease.

But Florence has reason to be proud of her Ospedale degli Innocenti. From the moment when the little bundle of clothes containing a wailing infant is placed in the turning wheel at the door of the Innocenti, to the time when the girl or boy of fourteen or sixteen leaves the Hospital to fight the battle of life outside its walls, the child is cared for, taught, and trained, with, as far as one can judge by report and observation, wisdom, judgment, and kindness, and if the girl is married from the Hospital, a dowry is given her. We passed from the shaded cloisters into the sunny garden, where groups of girls sat sewing under the trees, whilst others helped to tend the babies in arms, and the older ones who were toddling around. All seemed bright and happy under the deep blue sky of a Florentine May. Naturally, a system of boarding out obtains at the Ospedale, healthy peasant mothers from the country for miles around Florence having the care of these Innocenti for six months or a year, and bringing them in at stated intervals to be inspected and their progress noted.

The city of Florence gives a considerable yearly sum of money towards the support of this ancient foundation, and, as I have already remarked, may well be proud of it. And the Innocenti will always stand out with distinctness from other Foundling Hospitals, by reason of the ever-living art of the Della Robbia brothers.

RAY MERTON.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

The following ladies have received appointments as Staff Nurse: Miss A. L. Evans, Miss M. G. C. Foley.

Postings and Transfers.—Matrons: Miss H. W. Reid, to the Alexandra Hospital, Cosham; Miss M. L. Rannie, to Royal Infirmary, Dublin. Sisters: Miss S. N. Daly, to Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot; Miss E. C. Fox, to Military Hospital, Colchester; Miss G. Knowles, to Military Hospital, Dover; Miss B. S. Vaughan, to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley; Miss E. C. Stewart, to Military Hospital, Potchefstroom. Staff Nurses: Miss M. E. Stewart, to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, and Miss A. L. Evans, to Military Hospital, Devonport, on appointment; Miss A. Weir, to Military Hospital, Curragh; Miss K. E. Hearn, to Cam-

bridge Hospital, Aldershot; Miss G. A. Howe, Miss M. C. Johnston, Miss M. D. Woodhouse, Miss J. G. Dalton, Miss C. W. Jones, Miss M. M. A. McCreery, and Miss J. S. G. Gardner, to South Africa; Miss E. K. Kaberry, to Military Hospital, Cairo.

Appointments confirmed.—Staff Nurses: Miss M. A. Lovett, Miss M. C. Tawney.

Provisional Appointments.—The undermentioned ladies to be Staff Nurses: Miss Constance Eveline Alldridge and Miss Margaret Black.

Arrivals.—Miss C. Anderson, Sister, from South Africa; Miss E. M. Pettle, Sister, from Egypt.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.

The Lord Chancellor recently received a small deputation introduced by Lord Courtney, the object of which was, in view of certain recommendations of the Commission on the Care and Control of the Feeble-Minded, to anticipate in one direction any legislation that may be based on the recommendations of the Commission by immediately appointing a woman as a Lunacy Commissioner. The other members of the deputation were Dr. Shipman, M.P., Miss Leigh Browne, Hon. Secretary of the Women's Local Government Society, Mrs. Theodore Williams, Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Morris, and Miss Kilgour. The Secretary of the Women's Local Government Society considers that the reply of the Lord Chancellor was wholly sympathetic, and, although they had not received a pledge, the deputation retired satisfied that the Lord Chancellor would do what he could to provide that women should take part in the work of the Lunacy Commission.

Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium, who was, soon after her husband's death, appointed a Professor at the Sorbonne, has been selected to preside over the Electro-Chemistry Section at the International Congress of Chemists, etc., to be held in London, this being the first time such an honour has been conferred on a woman. M. Armand Gautier, Member of the Institute of France, is to be President of all the united sections.

Danish women exercised their right to vote for the first time on the 12th inst. in the elections for the Copenhagen Municipal Council. In the early morning crowds of ladies walked to the polling booths. Several of the voters were over seventy years of age, and one was over ninety. They were in high spirits, and are now working earnestly for the Parliamentary franchise.

At the recent ordinary meeting of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, a report from the Committee appointed to prepare a new by-law relating to the admission of women to examination for the diplomas of the College was received. The report was considered, and the proposed new by-law will come before the Council at their next meeting for further consideration and final approval.

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