

Requiescat in Pace.

The Sisters of St. Bartholomew's Hospital sent a lovely basket of poinsettias, and the nurses a fine wreath of holly and white heather tied with crimson ribbon, to Moffat last week to be laid on the grave of their late Matron, Miss Isla Stewart, on Christmas Eve. The offerings were as bright as possible; she was not one to encourage sadness. The lovely spot in which all that was mortal of this deeply-loved woman now rest has been during the year visited by several of those to whom she was so kind a friend in life.

The Nursing Masque.

Now that the extra work in connection with "A Happy Christmas" for rich and poor is over we must do all in our power to make the Registration Reunion, to take place on February 18th, a great success, and those taking part in the Pageant cannot have their costumes ready a day too soon.

At least one rehearsal will be necessary, especially for the Immortals, and Mrs. Walter Spencer has most kindly placed her spacious rooms at 2, Portland Place, W., at the disposal of the Committee for this purpose. We hope, therefore, all our kind helpers will be *cap à pie* by the 1st of February.

Those who are unable to take part in the processions can further the cause we all have so much at heart by selling tickets, and even if duty keeps them away tickets can be given to influential friends, so as to arouse their sympathy in the Registration movement. The Large Hall at the Connaught Rooms, where the Pageant will be held, will be arranged with a platform, on which the Immortals will be grouped. A limited number of chairs will be provided for those buying tickets at 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d., and 5s., but as the Reunion will be held in the Large Hall after the Pageant has passed to and fro, sufficient space must be left for circulating around, for conversation, and general amusement.

Tickets are the most important items for the present, and can be procured from the Secretary, Nursing Pageant, 431, Oxford Street, W., by Matrons, on sale or return, and at the office of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING (first floor), 11, Adam Street, Strand, W.C., on and after January 2nd next.

We hear that the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute has taken over the management of the *Queen's Nurses' Magazine*, and that an Assistant Editor has been appointed to help Lady Hermione Blackwood.

Cleansing Stations.

"Sakes alive! child, wherever have you been? What have they done to you?" so surprised was an anxious mother one day to see her little girl come in from school looking so rosy and bright.

"It was Nuss what done it," replied the little one; "she took me off to the Baths."

"Well," at last ejaculated the Mother, "if its a bath what makes you look like that, I'll just out and buy one this very minute!"

This pathetic little tale, which did actually take place after one of my visits to a school in my district, shows too plainly how it is chiefly ignorance of the right way to do things, not so much neglect of them, which is to blame. Hereafter mothers living within the areas of the cleansing stations of London will not be able to put forth this plea, as, surely, but slowly, they are being taught how "Prevention is better than cure." What is a cleansing station? you ask! At present, they are only too few and far between. We are only at the beginning of this new scheme—but already each station is doing good work, and each surrounding neighbourhood is beginning to wake up to the fact that the children must be clean now, or woe betide the luckless mothers. The ideal station consists of three rooms—nurse's room, a waiting room, and the bath room. They hardly require any further introduction, except the bath room, perhaps, which contains a slipper bath, the water for which is heated by a geyser, and a good sized steamer or destructor, where the clothes are baked by means of high pressure steam power. The child, who is found to be verminous by the School Nurse, is given a sealed envelope containing a warning, and also instructions of how to cleanse the child forthwith. Within forty-eight hours he is seen again, and if clean then, all is well: if not, a second notice is sent to the mother, giving her the option of herself cleansing the child or of taking him to the station. If this notice is again ignored, the nurse takes the child to the station, and he is given a bath. He is undressed and wrapped in a brown blanket whilst the bath is prepared. The clothes are all put into the destructor and baked for twenty minutes; during this time the child's hair is combed and paraffin rubbed on. Then comes the bath, which is usually very much enjoyed after the first few minutes of horror are over, and the comfort of hot water and soap is realised. Then out the little glowing body is lifted and wrapped in a white blanket to await the cleansed clothes hot from the steriliser.

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