

## THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The announcement in the Press that Lord Ampthill had met with an accident and was suffering from concussion, has aroused widespread sympathy amongst those nurses, who realise with deep gratitude his chivalrous help in the Registration cause. We quote with pleasure from a letter from Lady Ampthill in which she says: "I am glad to tell you that my husband is going on very well indeed now, but he had a nasty fall, and has been ordered to cancel all engagements until Christmas." We feel sure the readers of this Journal will be glad of this reassuring information.

## THE ISLA STEWART ORATION.

Upon the request of the President (Mrs. Bedford Fenwick) of the National Council of Trained Nurses, the Corporation of the City of London has granted the use of the Council Chamber at the Guildhall for the first Oration, to be given in honour of the late Miss Isla Stewart, who devoted twenty-three years of her life as Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital to the care of the sick in the City.

The Oration—"Isla Stewart, Her life and influence on the Nursing Profession"—will be delivered by Miss Cox-Davies, President of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, of which further notice will be given at an early date.

## THE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL FUND.

At last a meeting of the General Committee of the Florence Nightingale Memorial Fund has been called and met at St. Thomas's Hospital on Tuesday last, the Earl of Pembroke presided. The report of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Roberts, stated "that steps had been taken to place the appeal in the hands of the matrons of all the hospitals and nursing institutions in the country and in the Dominions, and appeals had also been made to Army and Navy units, to the House of Lords, and the House of Commons."

The total collection was £2,800, and the hope was expressed that sufficient funds would be forthcoming to place a statue worthy of Miss Nightingale in a prominent position in London; and to add a considerable sum to the object of nurses' annuities.

The nursing world at large will receive this report of the failure of the Executive Committee of the Fund with no surprise. It has

purposely denied representation to the nurses, as apart from hospital officials, and thrust upon the profession at large a charity scheme, in the name of Florence Nightingale, which they bitterly resent.

## THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

### THE IMMIGRATION OF COTTAGE NURSES.

The vexed question of providing Cottage Nurses to work in Ireland, trained for a few months at the Govan Hospital in Scotland, was considered at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Irish Nurses' Association on Saturday, the 7th instant, and a sub-committee was appointed to draft a Letter of Protest against the scheme. Miss Kelly, Steevens' Hospital, Miss Keating, National Maternity Hospital, Miss Butler, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, and Miss F. Kerr, Sister, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, were chosen to form the sub-committee.

At a meeting of the sub-committee, held on Monday, 9th instant, the following Letter was drafted, and has been sent for insertion in the *Irish Homestead*, in which the proposal has been supported:—

10th October, 1911.

DEAR SIR,—The proposed scheme of "United Irishwomen" for establishing a system of partially-trained nurses in Ireland was brought before a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association last week.

We all, as trained experts, join in condemning such a scheme most strongly. We consider it would be fraught with much danger to the sick poor, and, moreover, it would tend to lower the standard of nursing in Ireland if women with six or seven months' training are allowed to work without proper supervision and to call themselves "trained nurses." We all know the terrible amount of harm that can be done with a little knowledge; and, because we have the interest of the sick poor at heart, we must most earnestly protest against any scheme to give them unskilled care.

We remain, Sir,

On behalf of Irish Nurses' Association,  
Yours faithfully,

A. BUTLER, Matron, Sir P. Dun's Hospital;  
Hon. Sec. I.N.A.  
B. KELLY, Matron, Steevens' Hospital.  
M. KEATING, National Maternity Hospital,  
Holles St.

F. C. KERR (Sister), Sir P. Dun's Hospital.

It is to be regretted that the Editor of the *Irish Homestead* should have inserted this dignified communication under an impertinent heading. It is because unskilled work is cheaper than skilled, which costs time and money to acquire, that it is often foisted upon the ignorant poor by persons whose philanthropy stops short at expenditure and self-sacrifice.

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