

Hospital, and to help to raise funds it is proposed to form a Women's Guild in connection with the hospital. Invitations have been issued by the Treasurer and Lady Sandhurst, and, incredible as it sounds, the support of a large number of nurses trained at the hospital has been solicited—an invitation which has naturally aroused a lively sense of indignation after the indignity to which the whole Nursing School was subjected by the Treasurer last year, who under a threat of resignation at a Court of Governors, placed a lady at the head of the School, as Matron and Superintendent of Nursing, whose professional training did not qualify her for staff nurses duty! We are not surprised to learn that many nurses certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital do not intend to give any financial support to an institution which can treat its women workers with such contemptuous injustice.

Is it justifiable under any circumstances whatever for a committee to give power to one official to open letters addressed to another? We hear a chorus shouting, indignantly, "Certainly not." Yet, as far as we can gather from the report of a meeting of the House Committee of the Liverpool Workhouse, permission to open letters has been granted to the Matron of the House, addressed to the Superintendent of Nurses, in spite of the intense friction which has naturally arisen between these two officers in consequence of the practice.

A report was submitted by a special committee appointed to consider the question of the regulations to be observed by the principal officers of the institution, which recommended that no change should be made in the rules with regard to the distribution of letters intended for the various officials. Dr. Fellowes moved, and Mrs. McDonald seconded, the adoption of the report, and Mr. Garrett deprecated any discussion, and objected to the time of businessmen being taken up with such "paltry matters."

Miss Thorburn, on the contrary, contended that the matter was not "paltry," but a very serious one, and added there was bound to be friction as long as they gave the Matron the right to receive and open letters intended for the Superintendent Nurse. No one liked to have their letters opened and read by another.

Dr. Fellowes replied that letters addressed to the Matron, but meant for the Superintendent of Nurses, would be business letters, and no great

delay or harm has, or could, be created by their being opened by the Matron. It was not as if they were love letters!

Mrs. McDonald remarked—beside the mark—that the Matron was in a position of authority over the whole House, just as Mr. Bray, the Governor, was over the whole institution.

Mr. T. D. Laurence thought they might talk till Doomsday, but, unless they had officers willing and anxious to be reasonable and courteous to one another and to pass on to the proper quarter letters they opened and found were not meant for themselves, there would always be friction. The report was adopted.

The question of the inviolability of letters is one on which we should have imagined that there could not be two opinions—amongst honourable and responsible people. No person in a public institution has a right—nor have a committee of persons the right to decree that any official shall have the power to open letters not addressed to them—without the consent of the officials concerned; and as the majority of the House Committee of the Liverpool Workhouse appears to be devoid of a sense of justice in the matter, an appeal to the Local Government Board appears the only chance of redress.

The "Handbook on Nursing," by Miss Oxford, formerly of Guy's Hospital, is to be translated into Chinese, for the benefit of Nurses in China. This is a great compliment to Miss Oxford's work, which, no doubt, she did not contemplate when compiling her book.

George Fliedner, the son of Pastor Theodore Fliedner, of Kaiserswerth, has prepared a comprehensive biography of his famous father, who revived the Apostolic Order of Deaconesses in Germany. We hope due recognition has been given to the inspiration of the buoyant and practical Frederika Fliedner, the first wife of the Pastor, who helped the great movement spiritually and materially.

The people of California have, after a most vital struggle, adopted the amendment to the State Constitution in favour of woman suffrage, which makes the sixth State in the Union to do this itself this honour. An adverse majority in the towns was overcome by the vote of the farmers and orchard growers in the country; and the proposal has been carried by several thousand votes. The opposition of the town

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