

## MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF MATRONS.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed at a recent meeting of the above Association, and have been sent to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the members of Parliament for the counties of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire:—

1. That the Midland Association of Matrons and Lady Superintendents in general meeting assembled, seeing that under Clause 17 (or 20) of the National Insurance Bill Nurses may be appointed to attend on insured persons, are gravely concerned that thereby recognition by the State of untrained or partly trained Nurses may follow, and they consider that such recognition must inevitably lead to deterioration of the Standard of the Nursing Profession. The Midland Association of Matrons and Lady Superintendents strongly urge, therefore, that the words "fully trained" be inserted before the words "district nurse" and "nurse" in Clause 17 (or 20).

2. That the Midland Association of Matrons and Lady Superintendents beg that a thoroughly trained Nurse may be placed upon the Advisory Committee to be nominated by the Insurance Commissioners under the National Insurance Bill.

E. M. MUSSON,  
*President.*

## MEMORIAL AT THE GUILDHALL.

The Corporation of the City of London, of which Miss Florence Nightingale was a Free-woman, have voted £105 towards a memorial to her in the Guildhall.

### THE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL ON VIEW.

On November the 28th the bust of Miss Florence Nightingale, which the nurses of India are presenting to the Victoria Memorial Hall as a Memorial to the great foundress of their profession, was to be seen at 4, Camac Street, Calcutta, where Mrs. Stephen gave an "At Home" to all those nurses who had been interested in the Memorial. The guests were invited "to meet the members of the Nursing Conference now being held in Calcutta," and it was a very delightful reunion of nurses from various parts of India. Mrs. Stephen is an ideal hostess, and everybody was made to feel at home and welcome; and drank tea and talked hard to the strains of a string band which played at intervals. Amongst those present were Mrs. Duke, the wife of the Acting Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Lady Harrington, Mrs. Holmwood, and many others outside the profession but interested in it.

Mrs. Stephen is, of course, a niece of Miss Nightingale's, and has given her whole-hearted and invaluable help in forwarding the Memorial, and in addition to the bust she had to show the guests many photographs and other interesting mementoes of Miss Nightingale. The bust is cast in a beautiful light shade of bronze, from the marble bust of which a photograph was recently published in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and is mounted on a teak wood pedestal which was designed and made at the Government School of Art, Calcutta, under the superintendence of Mr. Percy Brown; and the inscription, cut on a wooden tablet in gilt letters and fixed to the pedestal, is as follows:—

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

BORN MAY 12TH, 1820.

DIED AUGUST 13TH, 1911.

PRESENTED BY THE NURSES OF INDIA.

### REMINISCENCES.

Some interesting reminiscences of Miss Nightingale and of her own probationary days are contributed to *The Onlooker* of December 16th by Mrs. Dacre Craven, who began her training at St. Thomas' Hospital as a Nightingale probationer during the time when it was temporarily removed to Surrey Gardens, after the South-Eastern Railway Company had acquired the original site for London Bridge Railway Station. At that time each bed was hung with blue checked curtains, changed "as required," and once a week the probationers—armed with forceps and a basin of water—were set to work to pick off the bugs that infested the hangings.

Of her first interview with Miss Nightingale, who asked her to take up Miss Agnes Jones's work at Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, Mrs. Dacre Craven writes:—

"I shall never forget her personal magnetism and the charm of her manner. I was especially struck by her gifts as a listener, and her power of drawing out of one the best of one's thoughts and aspirations. . . . Her face had the most fascinating dimples, and was lit up by the sweetest of smiles. She was wearing on her head a little Honiton lace lapel, which fell over her neck like a small veil."

### MISS NIGHTINGALE'S LETTERS.

Miss Nightingale's executors will be glad to receive any letters written by her, or other material, which the owners may be willing to lend for the purpose of a memoir. They should be sent by registered post to the executors at 31, South End Road, Hampstead, N.W.

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