

of medical correspondents of the daily press. . . . In short, we must learn that we have engaged an expert and must trust her." The presence of the modern nurse in the house "means the presence of skill and knowledge, vastly superior on the whole to any skill and knowledge whatever which were obtainable upon the earth less than two generations ago. . . .

"Those who know the real importance and dignity of this great modern profession, and the extent to which the realisation of the practical value of medical and surgical knowledge depends upon the nurse, are bound to concern themselves in every possible way with raising the status, and the qualifications of her who fulfils such a great function for the modern state. It need hardly be said that the first and plainest of indications is the establishment of some means whereby the qualified nurse may be distinguished from the unqualified. . . . It is certainly reasonable that the nurse who has faithfully qualified herself for her task at the expenditure of much time and money and labour should be distinguished from the first person who chooses to don a nurse's uniform though her medical knowledge be simply the medical ignorance of the general public. I certainly plead here therefore for the State Registration of trained nurses. We began this chapter by admitting that the nurse is born as well as made and that no hall-mark certifying to the making process can guarantee the first condition. That, however, is no reason whatever for questioning the rightness of training and of identifying the trained." M. B.

HONOUR TO THE ILLUSTRIOUS DEAD.

A number of nurses were present in Westminster Abbey last week, on the occasion of Lord Lister's funeral, where, with all honour to the illustrious dead, the first part of the service was held.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA.

It is officially announced that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is appointing a Committee to report at an early date upon the considerations of general policy in respect of the problem of tuberculosis in the United Kingdom, in its preventive, curative, and other aspects. The Chairman is Mr. Waldorf Astor, M.P., and the Secretary, Mr. F. J. Willis, one of the Assistant Secretaries to the Local Government Board. All the bodies, public and private, having the management of sanatoria are represented, as well as the Local Government Boards of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the Board of Education, the Insurance Commissions, medical officers of health, and voluntary hospitals.

THE SEVENTH MARCHIONESS OF RIVIÈRE.

The chapter of this Interlude is unavoidably held over this week.

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The Queen has presented some gifts of rare beauty to the Indian Section of the Victoria and Albert Museum, one of great interest being a carved rock crystal toilet tray, formerly the possession of a Moghul princess in the sixteenth century; and many other exquisite specimens of carved, inlaid, enamelled and mosaic work. The collection is a great acquisition to the museum.

Mr. Agg-Gardiner, who won the third place in the private members' ballot in the House of Commons, will introduce the Women's Suffrage (Conciliation) Bill.

The Men's Society for Women's Rights have issued a leaflet concerning the case of Mr. William Ball, sentenced to two months' hard labour for breaking a window of the Home Office while demonstrating in favour of the women's suffrage movement. No doubt his health suffered from the forcible feeding which he subsequently underwent, and the prison life. But that does not justify the Home Office or the Governor of the prison in taking steps to consign him to a pauper lunatic asylum without consulting his wife. Probably what Mr. Ball needed, after all his sufferings, was good nursing, which, we are glad to believe, he has since had in the Nursing Home to which he was removed.

Dr. Margaret Todd, the executor of the late Dr. Sophia Jex-Blake—the leader of the Women's Medical Training Movement at Edinburgh University, and the first woman in England to qualify as M.D.—proposes to write the life of her friend, and will be grateful for any letters or particulars of her early years from those who possess them.

A notable victory (says *The Standard*) has been won by the women of Finland, that is due in a very obvious measure, it is claimed, to their having their own representatives in Parliament. A nation-wide campaign, to raise the age of consent, culminated in a memorable scene in the Diet, when, one by one, Baroness Alexandra Gripenberg, M.P., Thekla Hultin, M.P., Hedwig Gebhard, M.P., Anni Houtari, M.P., and other women members rose and pressed the case of women for immediate and stringent reform. Although the amendment finally passed did not grant the women's demands in their entirety, it adopted such radical changes in the prevailing law, as the removal of the option of a fine against male offenders in cases concerning children, the delegation of a wholly new power to the State for initiating criminal proceedings, the raising of the maximum term of imprisonment for this offence from eight to ten years, and the raising of the age of consent by three years. The result has caused great satisfaction among the organised women's societies of Finland.

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