

MEDALS AND CERTIFICATES.

On Thursday last, the 21st inst., a very pleasing ceremony took place at the Mile End Infirmary, the occasion being a visit from Miss Stansfeld, Superintendent Lady Inspector of the Local Government Board, to present the Medals and Certificates to the successful Nurses in the recent Examination. Among those present were the Infirmary Committee Chairman (Mr. W. Groves), and the Vice-Chairman (Mrs. I. M. Fletcher Porter), Miss Mowatt (Matron, Whitechapel Infirmary), Miss Bentley (Matron, South St. Pancras Infirmary), Miss Spittle (Matron, North St. Pancras Infirmary), Miss Dowbiggin (Matron, Edmonton Infirmary), the Rev. F. W. Botheroyd, B.A. (Chaplin), Dr. J. Harley Brooks (Medical Superintendent), Miss Preston (Matron), and Miss Pendrey (Assistant Matron).

Miss Stansfeld, who was accompanied by Mrs. Turner, gave a most instructive and inspiring address on the duties and work of a Nurse, laying special emphasis on the importance of what might be called little things, and singleness of purpose. She congratulated those who were to receive their certificates and prizes, telling them that now they could face their duties, not as probationers, but as fully-trained Nurses, and urging them not to forget the importance and even sacredness of their profession.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Miss Stansfeld for her attendance and her helpful address, as was a similar vote of thanks to the Chairman, who admirably carried out the duties of the position.

The Medals and Certificates were given as under : Gold Medal (presented by the Mile End Guardians) Nurse Brailsford. Silver Medal (presented by Dr. Harley Brooks, Medical Superintendent), Nurse Jessie Sheret. Prize for neatness of work (given by Miss Preston, Matron), Nurse Meredith. All the above also received first class Certificates, as did Nurses A. J. Jones, M. Sheret, Martin, Blackwell, and Fellows.

WEDDING BELLS.

The approaching marriage is announced of Miss F. Mann (late Sister Luke, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London). Her many friends will wish her all happiness in her new life.

THE PASSING BELL.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Sister Oliver, of Founder Ward, Middlesex Hospital, after a short illness. She was a general favourite, and many lovely flowers at the funeral testified to the affection in which she was held. The nursing staff sent a cross of violets and lilies six feet in length.

It is sad to announce that the body of Miss Margaret Dale Scott, a nurse at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, who has been missing since the end of last month has been found in the river. At the inquest held on Monday the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity."

NURSING ECHOES.

As so many progressive Nurses' Societies are affiliated to the National Council of Women, we hope they will read carefully our report, in another column, of the Extraordinary Meeting convened to discuss a resolution on Women's Suffrage. As ambiguous and inaccurate accounts of the meeting have appeared in the press—and as an attempt is being made by the anti-suffragists to sow dissension in the Union—it is well that the exact truth should be known to the members of affiliated societies.

Miss Curtis and the nurses of the Hammer-smith and Fulham District Nursing Association will be at home in the Hammersmith Town Hall on Thursday, December 12th, from 4.30 to 6.30, when the Countess Ferrers will announce the amounts collected by friends of the Association and thank the collectors.

When Miss Gibson, recognised as one of the leaders in Poor Law Infirmary work, retired from the position of Matron of the Poor Law Infirmary at Birmingham, one would naturally have supposed that the Guardians would have made a point of electing to succeed her, in a most arduous post, a lady who had wide experience of Poor Law nursing and administration, especially as there were several admirable candidates to select from. But presumably such experience was quite superfluous in the opinion of those of the Guardians who urged the election of the successful candidate, as the new Matron was trained at the London Hospital, and was promoted from the office of Matron to the Rutson Hospital, Northallerton, which contains fourteen beds, and which often has half that number of patients, and is, moreover, the Headquarters of the North Riding Rural Nursing Association, which purports to "train" nurses for the sick poor in a few months' time!

Now if a strong woman, thoroughly conversant with Poor Law methods and sound on the question of an efficient term of training, is needed anywhere she is needed at the Birmingham Infirmary, to judge from the adverse criticism of the nursing department which has for the past few months appeared constantly in the press. At a recent meeting of the Guardians, in reference to the overwork of the nurses, Mr. A. G. Carter moved that the question of wages be referred back as a protest against the way in which the nurses were overworked. If, he said, any outside employer

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