

THE MASQUERADERS.

CHARGE OF ATTEMPTING TO PROCURE.

We quote the following case from *The Times*.

At Clerkenwell, Flora Johnson, 45, described as an unfortunate, of Swinton Street, Gray's Inn Road, was charged before Mr. d'Eyncourt with attempting to procure Ethel Maud Driver, 28, a nurse.

Ethel Maud Driver said that she was assistant matron at the Homes of Hope, in Regent Square. She was in a public-house in the evening when Johnson came in and the witness treated her to rum. Later the accused asked her to go home with her, and she did so. After she had drunk a glass of stout at the woman's room Johnson said to her, "Will you stick to me?" and she replied, "Yes, I will."

Mr. d'Eyncourt: For what purpose?—She said, "You will get plenty of money in uniform."

Continuing, the witness said that they went out together and walked along Euston Road, where Johnson accosted several men and introduced the witness to them. They had two more drinks at public-houses and eventually took an omnibus to Liverpool Street. Here Johnson stopped another man and the witness asked him to get her away. He called the police and Johnson was given into custody.

In reply to the magistrate the witness said she did not go with the woman in order to catch her, and should not have gone had she not had drink. She added that she bought some laudanum at a chemist's, Johnson having said she (the witness) wanted some sleep.

The case was remanded.

TO HER HORROR,

Even the *Daily Mail* is compelled to report a little of the truth of the bogus nurse question. As a determined opposer to all protection of the nursing profession and the public through State Registration, this is the more significant. From Tuesday's issue we quote:—

"Owing to recent revelations of white slave traffic methods, cases are reported of nurses in uniform being regarded with suspicion at the London railway centres.

"'Only the other day,' writes a London nurse to the *Daily Mail*, 'a nurse was sent to meet a girl patient who was coming from the country to a hospital. To her horror a policeman at the station warned her in such a manner as left no doubt as to his suspicions. This is not an isolated example, as many nurses could testify.'"

CRIES OF "MORMON."

Apparently Belfast mill girls know how to treat the masquerader to judge from the following story. A person wearing a nursing sister's cloak called at the house of an elderly woman and asked to be allowed to make a cup of tea, and was noticed to be wearing trousers instead of a skirt under the cloak. Out rushed the woman, and

some hundreds of mill girls passing by, with cries of "Mormon"! pursued the "Sister" who had taken to flight. Later a constable rescued him buffeted and bleeding, minus the cloak, and took him to the police station.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Their Majesties the King and Queen, whose interest in hospitals is well known, have visited several institutions in London during the past week.

The Duchess of Albany last week paid a visit to the Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital for Crippled Children at Alton. Her Royal Highness, who was received by Sir William and Miss Treloar, was specially interested in the "Babies' Ward."

Mr. Lloyd George has sent a reply to the Council of the British Hospitals Association, who asked that hospitals should be relieved from the payment of legacy duty upon bequests made to them. The Chancellor states that, having regard to the very considerable loss of revenue to the Exchequer involved, and to the very serious demands of a like nature inevitably following such concessions, he regrets he cannot accede to the request. He points out that it is always open to testators to bequeath hospital legacies free of duty, and thus shift the incidence of duty to the residuary legatee.

The Committee of Management of the Mount Vernon Hospital for Diseases of the Chest at Hampstead have recommended the governors to sell the hospital and devote the funds to the Northwood Sanatorium associated with the institution, owing to financial difficulties caused by the Insurance Act.

Sir Charles Seeley, Chairman of the General Hospital, Nottingham, and father of the Secretary of State for War, has announced his intention to present the Notts Convalescent Homes at Skegness which were established by his liberality, with land north of the present institution and to assist in any plan for laying it out.

The Anthrax Investigation Board has reported as the result of investigations that while the hope of proving "no blood, no anthrax" must be abandoned, as the outstanding feature of last year's tests was the cultivation of the anthrax bacilli from materials free from trace of blood, yet the presence of blood must be regarded as a danger signal of first importance.

The provision of State-Aided hospitals for tuberculosis is being considered by the Provincial Legislature of Halifax, Canada.

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