

MISS WILSON OF WINNIPEG.

It is always a pleasure to meet members of our profession who are serving the sick under the British flag in our spacious Colonies "where a man" (and a woman too) "has elbow room," and it was recently our good fortune to have as our guest at dinner Miss F. Wilson, Lady Superintendent of the General Hospital, Winnipeg, who is paying a short visit to this country, and to hear her views, not only on nursing questions, but on imperial affairs in the Dominion. Miss Wilson is of opinion that if our legislators had in the past shown a greater appreciation of Canada's needs, a more careful selection of emigrants would have been made, and brighter brains would have been drafted into the country to hold their own in the industrial market with all competitors. But Canada has, she thinks, benefited by recent legislation in the Mother Country, which is having the effect of driving out of the Homeland some excellent and competent workers who will be valuable acquisitions in the Dominion.

Like many other Canadians, she is keenly appreciative of the wise and beneficent rule of the Duke of Connaught in Canada, and particularly mentioned that the example of simplicity set by Princess Patricia, combined with her personal charm, was bound to be an influence for good.

Miss Wilson is of opinion that English girls who wish to work subsequently in Canada will do well to train there, as the conditions they will have to encounter are so different to those prevailing at home. At the Winnipeg General Hospital which is in the middle west, a very thorough training is given, with experience in many departments besides medical and surgical nursing, including district nursing and social service. Moreover, the atmosphere is less restrictive than in many hospitals at home. Probationers when accepted are treated as intelligent women, and know that they are trusted to keep the rules in an honourable manner.

The nursing staff at the Winnipeg General Hospital is about to be doubled, in order to meet the requirements of an increase of 200 beds. There is therefore just now a specially good opportunity of being received for training there, for Miss Wilson is requiring an addition to the staff of 120 nurses and probationers. The salaries of the nurses are excellent, being equivalent to £100 a year with board and lodging. It would be a liberal education to be trained under a Matron of such culture and charm as Miss Wilson, and girls of enterprising disposition who are thinking of entering a hospital for training would have a good chance of promotion under such a Superintendent.

THE PASSING BELL.

Still another of the little band of nurses who served with Miss Nightingale in the Crimea has passed away. Sister Mary Stanislaus (R. R. C.), who celebrated her ninetieth birthday last year, and who until a few years ago held the position

of Superintendent of the Hospital of St. John and St. Elizabeth, at St. John's Wood, died in the Convent of that institution last week. She was honourably mentioned in despatches during the war; and in 1897 (some forty years later), received the decoration of the Royal Red Cross from Queen Victoria, in recognition of her services.

A memorial service was held in the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less on April 18th for Miss Janie E. Highet, a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, and of the private nursing staff, Galen House, Guildford, whose death we recorded last week.

Miss Waind, the Lady Superintendent under whom she worked for the last seven and a half years, sends us the following appreciation of her work:—"I saw a good nurse defined as 'one who always does a little more than necessary, rather than just enough or just too little.' Miss Highet was a good nurse in every sense of the word, and her lavish expenditure of self towards her patients, her colleagues, and all who knew her, will never be forgotten by us.

"A short illness has meant less suffering for her, but it has left us with very sore hearts at having so little time to show her our loving sympathy."

Everyone connected with St. Bartholomew's Hospital has been shocked and deeply grieved by the tragic death of the young surgeon, Mr. R. B. Etherington-Smith, from pneumo-coccal peritonitis, after a few days' illness. It is understood that he contracted the disease after operating on a case of gangrene of the lung.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

In returning a verdict of "accidental death," a jury at Southwark unanimously expressed the opinion that electric ambulances should be provided throughout the metropolis, and they requested that communications conveying their views should be forwarded to the various authorities. Both the coroner (Dr. Waldo) and Dr. Montgomery (of Guy's Hospital) had expressed the opinion that if the electric ambulance system were in force generally throughout London it would result in the alleviation of much pain, and no doubt the saving, in many instances, of life.

The late Mr. John Jones, of Grove Lodge, Wrexham, has by his will left £50,000 to the Wrexham Infirmary, of which institution he was a vice-president. He has also given for the use of the Infirmary Roseneath House and grounds, Wrexham, and Claremont Hydro, Rhyl.

The Secretary for the Colonies has appointed a Commission to study the nature of fevers—especially yellow fever—occurring among Europeans and natives in West Africa.

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