

the organization of nursing in England, namely, that the opposition is to any form of legal status for trained nurses founded on the principle of self-government, and not to registration *per se*." (2) "In no other country have trained nurses in their work for legal status had to contend for so many years with the misrepresentations and hostility of the non-professionally interested nursing press. If the story of the struggle for nursing organization in the United Kingdom serves as a lesson to the nurses of other nations in showing them where their strength and weakness lie, the quarters from which opposition will inevitably arise, and the tenacity of purpose, courage, and self-sacrifice needed by those who take the work of women's organization in hand, this chapter of nursing history will not have been written in vain."

SCOTLAND.

In Scotland the hospitals cannot trace their origin back to monastic times, the oldest of the great hospitals being the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, founded in 1729. A gentlewoman was engaged as mistress or housekeeper at "a reasonable wage," this being £4, increased to £5 for Mrs. Waldie, her successor. Even in those days apparently there were differences between the medical and nursing staffs, for the first Resident, Mr. Robert McKinley, accused this lady of 20 distinct misdemeanours, including not making the pudding according to the managers' orders (the recipe being minuted), keeping out six eggs and a pint of milk and substituting water; only giving two baps to three patients instead of one to each; constantly entertaining friends and giving them tea; making the sack whey into posset for her own use; and rough speaking to the patients. Both parties were admonished—Mrs. Waldie for speaking harshly to a patient, and the doctor for interfering in the housekeeping department and encouraging complaints from servants and patients. Mrs. Waldie was completely exonerated from the charges of dishonesty, which were found to be "false and malicious." As Mrs. Waldie had a child dependent upon her, it is not surprising that she found herself in monetary difficulties on her income of £5, and that eventually it was increased to £8 6s. 8d. When she resigned, the managers stipulated that her successor should be a person competent to keep accounts, and that all their employees should be free from the care of children or persons depending on them.

A history of the hospital published in 1777 concludes some instructions to young physicians with the following advice:—

"There is still a circumstance which, however trivial it may appear to some, is not unworthy the attention of a hospital physician—that is, to learn the dispositions of the different nurses. While one, from a natural impatience, can hardly tolerate the caprice of patients, whose bodies as well as minds are debilitated by the force of disease; another, too sympathizing, may be disposed to palliate faults of patients which ought to be reported to the physician or surgeon. The physician, by attending to these differences, will judge better how to regulate his conduct."

For the history of the development of the training schools, the introduction of trained nursing into Scottish poorhouses, the establishment of examinations for nurses under the Local Government Board, and the beginnings, in recent years, of organization amongst the nurses themselves, and much else of interest, the history itself must be consulted.

IRELAND.

It is to be expected that the nursing history of Ireland would be wrapped in legends tinged with the mysticism which is ingrained in the Celtic character, and we learn that the traditions of Irish hospitals and nursing extend far back and almost to pre-historic times: "In the heroic cycle of Finn and his Fianna we read of warriors covered with wounds and glory being carried back to the camp, where they were met by bands of women trained to nurse the wounded; how these took charge of the wounded heroes, and how, after a time, by the skill of the physicians and the care of the women, who "built them for battle once more," they were restored to health and vigour.

Nursing by religious orders dates as far back as the end of the fifth century, when the famous St. Brigid and her nuns attended the sick. In the eighteenth century many municipal hospitals were founded, and then Ireland, like her sister isles, had her dark period when Sairey Gamp was rampant.

Organization of nurses in Ireland began in 1900, when the Irish Nurses' Association was formed, with Miss Huxley as its first President. Miss Dock records that throughout the whole of the struggle of British nurses to obtain registration from Parliament, the Irish nurses have been keen and quick of action. At the time when, in 1908, through some obscure play of governmental politics, Irish nurses were threatened with exclusion from the Registration Bill then before Parliament, they uprose in vigorous resistance.

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