

the joy of missionary work; one after another brought home the tremendous call for more workers. Dr. Lillingston told how once she had received a telegram, "Sister dangerously ill; come immediately and cure her," and that message comes from all Eastern women to us women. First we must realise that sister *is* dangerously ill. On her way home from India Dr. Lillingston was visiting in Africa, and was called out to see a sick woman. The way lay among rich tropical foliage, with a wonderful view of distant mountains, but on the hillside was a tiny hut in which lay the woman, quite unconscious, as she had been for two days. There was little to be done, and during the next night she died. Her people would leave her lying there, and the hyenas would do the rest. There are thousands of women living thus beyond the reach of medical aid. It is for us to see that [we help those whom we can reach. There is a marvellous opportunity in Africa and in India, and the cry of helplessness comes to those who can help.

The meetings closed with another note; not the difficulty, nor the joy, nor the opportunity, but the power in which such work must be done. The Rev. K. W. S. Kennedy dwelt on the fact that the missionary nurse is, in very special measure, following the example of the Great Physician, and that her life must show forth Him to her patients. This can only be done in the strength of such a vision as Isaiah saw of old of God on high and holy and lifted up, the Almighty.

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The Nurses' Missionary League is most fortunate in its officers, and the meetings throughout the day were, as usual, admirably organised and very well attended.

## THE DUTIES OF A MATRON IN A MISSION HOSPITAL IN INDIA.\*

The Matron's first duty to herself and to her work is to learn the language, for to really superintend you must talk and understand a vernacular. When you have learned your language, and come to your station to use it, what do you find in your department as Matron? With us, our English evangelist, who has taken her C.M.B., is responsible for the oversight of the servants, the food, the linen and the furniture repairs, so that she is virtually evangelist-assistant-matron. To come to the work which Matron



NATIVE NURSES, BANGALORE HOSPITAL.

keeps in her own hands—First there is the charge of all the instruments and dressings. An inventory has to be made and kept (and inventories play a large part in our Matron's life for once a month she takes an inventory of all the furniture big and little in the wards). Matron not only sees that there are dressings enough, but she sees to the preparation of some cheaper forms of dressings, e.g., we use old linen and cotton rags boiled with borax, instead of gauze and lint for almost all our every-day dressings; and we make absorbent sawdust pads with cheap bazaar muslin. Matron's

\* Notes of a Lecture given by Miss A. G. Lillingston, L.R.C.P. & S. Ed., of Bangalore, for Nurses' Missionary League, October 1st, 1913.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)