Nightingale Training School for Nurses was opened. It is a curious anomaly that the Council nominated by Miss Nightingale consisted solely of men. Even her progressive mind did not contemplate the inclusion of women, but it must be remembered that she did not find women sympathetic, and her men friends were devoted to her interests, a fact which she did not fail to utilize to promote her projects. She worked them to the last ounce of their capacity, and when failing health, and even mortal illness, sapped their energy, she reproached them (as in the case of Mr. Sidney Herbert), whom she told that no man in her day had thrown away so noble a game with all the winning cards in his hands; nor did she learn wisdom, for she treated Arthur Clough in much the same way. But "she was always inclined to drive willing horses a little hardly."

Miss Nightingale's choice fell on St. Thomas's Hospital as a training school for her nurses because Mrs. Wardroper, the Matron, was a woman after her own heart, and the Resident Medical Officer, Mr. R. G. Whitfield, was sympathetic.

But she was also interested in the training of midwives, and initiated a scheme in connection with King's College Hospital, where the Matron, Miss Mary Jones, was her great ally. Unfortunately an outbreak of puerperal fever, necessitated the closing of the maternity ward.

Miss Nightingale's appetite for information as to the progress of the Nightingale probationers was insatiable. She devised elaborate monthly forms, recording the minutest details, besides which Mrs. Wardroper supplied her with personal reports.

Thus she wrote of one probationer: "I have not the smallest reason to doubt the correctness of her moral character; her manner, nevertheless, is objectionable, and she uses her eyes unpleasantly; as her years increase, this failing—an unfortunate one—may possibly decrease." The nurses were only allowed to go out two together. "Of course, we part as soon as we get to the corner," said one of them.

Miss Nightingale's method of choking off undesirable correspondents was effective and terse. "Please choke off this woman, and tell her I shall *never* be well enough to see her, either here or *hereafter*."

Miss Nightingale was very fond of cats, and named two of her pets Bart's and Tom. Sir James Paget, who was asked to communicate this evidence of affection to his colleagues, added that "Thomas is a very boastful fellow, and says sometimes that the lady thinks meanly of everyone but him."

(To be concluded.)

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

THE OPPORTUNITY OF WOMANHOOD.

Dr. Jane Walker gave a very interesting address on Friday, November 21st, upon this subject.

"We live in a very interesting age," she said. "Men have been so busy in the past working out their own salvation that they have forgotten the women. No history, worthy of the name, would be complete without taking account of the Woman's Movement." The doctor's address—after a few preliminary remarks—took the form of a survey of the past, which she brought under the focus of present-day progress and enlightenment, and showed the future to be full of vast opportunities.

Any pretext for speaking of Florence Nightingale is not only welcomed by those who revere her memory, but it is also to the advantage of the young nurses of the present generation, who, like many others, have probably been brought up to think of her merely, or mainly, as "The lady with the lamp." If we think of the lamp as symbolical, we shall judge of the magnitude of Florence Nightingale's work in its rightful proportions. The lecturer skilfully brought the minds of her hearers to this point by speaking of some of her less-known achievements, reminding them that her work in the Crimea was *not* her greatest work. She had done splendid work in altering the system of military sanitation. The passing of the Metropolitan Poor Act in 1867 was largely due to her, so also was the establishment of District Nursing, because Mr. Rathbone, the founder, had taken inspiration from her. This led Dr. Walker to speak of that other great woman and pioneer who sacrificed her life to the cause of reform, Agnes Jones, whose admiration for the older woman led her to take up nursing.

It made us shudder to hear of the awful conditions prevailing in the Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, when this courageous, unselfish, and deeply religious woman undertook the Herculean task of reforming it.

Three or four patients slept in one bed, and as many as eight children!—and most of the nursing was done by pauper assistants. By her courage and infinite tact she disarmed all opposition and overcame all difficulties, but at the end of three years she paid for her strenuous work with her life.

Dr. Walker gave excellent advice to nurses when she recommended them earnestly to *read*, and mentioned many classical authors of prose