

of the Lincoln County Hospital; Miss Margaret Breay, trained at Bart's, Acting Matron at the Metropolitan and Zanzibar Hospitals; for twenty years sub-editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and foremost in every good work in season and out of season, for the elevation and consolidation of the professions of Nursing and Midwifery—of both arts she is one of the most fearless pioneers and brilliant exponents; Miss Mary N. Cureton, a greatly loved Matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge; Miss Christina Forrest, Lady Superintendent of the York County Hospital, to this day in the forefront of nursing



MARY N. CURETON.

progress; Miss Louisa Hogg, Head Sister, Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar; Miss R. F. Lumsden, Hon. Lady Superintendent, Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen; Miss Henrietta C. Poole, Nursing Superintendent, Adelaide Hospital, Dublin; Miss Gertrude A. Rogers, the organiser of the Nursing School at Leicester Royal Infirmary; Miss Georgina Scott, the Superintendent, Sussex County Hospital, Brighton; Miss Maud G. Smith, Lady Superintendent, Royal Infirmary, Bristol; Miss Catherine J. Wood, Lady Superintendent, Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

"Of these pioneers, death has robbed the profession of Isla Stewart, Rachel Lumsden, Henrietta Poole, and Maud G. Smith, and others have retired from active participation in nursing politics, but their names and honourable labours for the organisation of their profession should be held in appreciative remembrance by the younger generation, who owe them a debt of gratitude for their power of progressive thought, their sense of professional responsibility, their unselfish devotion to duty, and their courage in fighting prejudice and privilege."



GODIVA M. THOROLD.

"Indeed yes," my American friend chimed in; "the record of the struggle for Nursing reform in Britain gave an enormous impetus to our registration movement in the States. After the elimination of nursing influence in the Royal British Nurses' Association

—a very cruel wrong—we used to call it, 'The Fingerpost to the road to avoid,' we doubt on our side if you will ever get any degree of professional self-government, until you have woman's suffrage."

"Then we shan't be long," I said hopefully.

E. G. F.

A RETROSPECT.

Looking back across the twenty-three years which have passed since British Nurses gained their Royal Charter, we are able to appreciate the progress which has been made in nursing organisation. Which ever way we turned then we saw nurses isolated and unorganised. In Cape Colony, through the efforts of Sister Henrietta of Kimberley, who was in touch with the British Nurses' Association at home, registration had been enforced under the Medical and Pharmacy Act of the Cape of Good Hope, but of nurses' organisations there were none. It will seem almost incredible to those who have, of recent years, visited the United States of America, and attended Congresses organised by the great National Associations of Superintendents and Nurses, that it was not until three years later that the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States and Canada was formed, and still later that Canada had her own Association.



CASSANDRA BEACHCROFT.

In 1901, owing to the work of Mrs. Grace Neill, an Act for the Registration of Nurses was passed in New Zealand, the first dealing exclusively with the Registration of Nurses to be placed on any Statute Book.

It may seem to some that organisation among nurses is slow, but when we think of the conditions prevailing in 1893, and then call to mind the many national associations of nurses which now exist, we can but realise the far-reaching effect of the seed sown in London in 1887, when a few Matrons met at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, to discuss the foundation of a British Nurses' Association. We need only mention the meetings of the International Council of Nurses, composed of delegates of National Councils to prove the advance of organization.



CATHERINE J. WOOD.



GERTRUDE A. ROGERS.

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