March 24, 1917

The British Journal of Mursing.

points out, has meant financial sacrifice both to the nurses and to the Home, as the remuneration for Army nursing is considerably less than that earned by a nurse on the staff of the Co-operation. A nurse in France wrote to the Lady Superintendent, Miss Rough : " Nurse Lyle thoroughly deserves the much-valued honour, she has been under shell fire four or five times.

A DANGEROUS CONTRACT.

The Secretary of the War Office makes the following announcement :--

Nurses holding certificates for three years' general training, who are desirous of being em-ployed in military hospitals should

apply in writing without delay to the Matron - in - Chief, Q.A.I.M.N.S, Adas-tral House, Victoria Embankment, London, E.C. 4.

Increased rates of pay are now granted after twelve months service.

The following is one reason, and a very vital reason, why there is a shortage of Trained Nurses in military hospitals controlled by the War Office, Self-respecting, welltrained women object to signing the Agreement, one Clause of which is considered most offensive. We suggest to the Secretary of State for War that he should require the Army Council to reconsider the terms of Agreement trained nurses serving as members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing

MISS FLORENCE SMITH. Matron of the Third Southern Hospital, Bristol. Awarded the Royal Red Cross.

Service Reserve have to sign, and insist upon its immediate modification. It was enforced before his time, so he may very well rescind it.

THE OFFENDING CLAUSE.

"6. If I shall in any manner misconduct myself or shall be (otherwise than through unavoidable illness or accident) unfit in any respect for service under this agreement, of which misconduct you (that is Lord Derby) or your authorized represen-tative (that is Sir Alfred Keogh, Director-General Army Medical Department) shall be the sole

judge, you shall be at liberty, from and immediaately after such misconduct or unfitness, to discharge me from further service hereunder and thereupon all pay and allowances hereunder shall cease.

Unless this intolerable Clause were in print it would be impossible to believe that British women are invited to place themselves in such a defenceless position either by the Army Council or the Nursing Board, whilst offering to perform the most patriotic service in war time.

THE NURSING BOARD.

According to the last available Army List the

following form the Nursing Board :---

President : Queens Alexandra.

Vice - President: The Dowager Countess Roberts, C.I., R.R.C.

Chairman : The Director - General, Army Medical Service.

Member of the Board : Advisory Major (temp. Col.) Sir J. B. Bradford, K.C.M.G., M.D., &c. The Matron - in -

Chief : Miss E. H. Becher, R.R.C.

Matrons of the Civil Hospitals : Miss Rachel Cox-Davies, R.R.C., Miss L. V. Haughton, R.R.C.

Nominated by Her Majesty Queen Alex-andra: The Countess of Airlie, Viscount Knutsford,

Secretary : Miss E. M. McCarthy, R.R.C., Principal Matron.

At last, Members of Parliament are beginning to realise trained nurses exist and are worthy of

some attention. Mr. Brady asked in the House of Commons on Monday what were the terms on which hospital trained nurses were employed in the Army; and what pensions the Government will give such nurses who are invalided whilst in the Šervice?

Mr. Foster replied stating the emoluments received and added that the present scale of disability pensions is given in Army Orders 151 of 1915, but that the question of revising this scale is now under consideration.



