

some years' experience of household management and it may therefore be taken for granted that she will be in sympathy with her Nurse visitors. I hope that she will be very happy and successful in her new work.

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MISS LUMSDEN, who has been for some time Honorary Superintendent of the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, has been specially appointed by Her Majesty as a member of the new council of the Scottish branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute of Nurses.

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MISS LUMSDEN is one of the most active members of the R.B.N.A., and was the first lady to organise a Scotch Hospital on the best English system—that of admitting Probationers for a three years' term of training, under the direction of "Sisters." It was not until several years later that the authorities of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary followed the good example set them at Aberdeen.

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I AM glad to see that the correspondence on the "Nursing question" still continues in the *Woman's Herald*. As this paper is read by many thinking women, some good ought to be the result of the correspondence. The following letter is so much to the point that I must copy it for the benefit of my readers:—"I am a constant reader of your spirited paper, and I rejoice to see at last that the burning question of Nurses, and the conditions under which they work, has come upon the *tapis*. 'M. A. Biggs' has done wisely in advising your readers to study Mrs. Robert Hunter's paper on the subject, printed in last month's *English Illustrated Magazine*. It contains a most truthful account of the work and life of the Nurses in our large Hospitals, and in a most practical manner exposes the many abuses which undoubtedly exist in the organisation of most Nursing Schools. The long hours of work, inferior quality of food, comfortless cubicles, inadequate holidays, the autocracy of the Matrons, who are permitted to discharge Nurse pupils at a moment's notice, the unbusinesslike registers kept by these officials, in which most libellous statements are recorded concerning the Nurses, and of which they are kept in absolute ignorance, and the dishonest manner in which Nurses are supplied to the sick public—ignorant Probationers often being sent to critical cases, at the charge of two guineas a week, when 'thoroughly trained Nurses' are advertised—are all very important details, which combine to make a most unsatisfactory whole, which for the sake of our Nurses, as well as the public, requires speedy investigation and as speedy reform—Faithfully yours,  
A LATE LONDON HOSPITAL SISTER."

IN the same copy of the *Woman's Herald*, a most interesting "interview" with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick is reported. As we all know, she is a great advocate for the Registration of Trained Nurses, and gives very good reasons for her belief in the necessity for such a scheme.

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SPECIAL courses of lectures have been opened in St. Petersburg, in the Alexander Hospital, for ladies who are working there as chemists' apprentices. Women are allowed to serve in this capacity in Russia if they have followed the full course of a girls' high school, or have passed an examination equivalent to that demanded of the male candidates, including as much Latin as is required of the men. A practical difficulty arose, however—viz., that women are much slower in mastering the profession of chemist than the men, because they are insufficiently grounded in botany, chemistry, mineralogy, &c. In order to remove this difficulty the Town Hospital Commission has opened special courses at the above-named Hospital, where women apprentices can receive instruction in pharmacology, botany, and chemistry. The necessary funds are provided by two anonymous members of the Hospital Commission. The lectures are to be delivered by Professors of the Military Medical Academy. The formal opening of the classes was preceded by Divine service.

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THE *Daily Telegraph* has given its verdict upon the Register of Nurses, and we commend it to the attention of every unregistered Nurse. "The Royal British Nurses' Association, of which Princess Christian is president, and whose list of vice-presidents includes the Empress Frederick and most of the leaders of the English Medical Profession, has issued a Register of Trained Nurses, which will in future be published annually. It contains the names, addresses, and particulars of Hospital training of many hundred Nurses, and must have been compiled at much cost and labour. A most influential Registration Board of Medical men and Hospital Matrons investigates each certificate before entering the name on the Register, and it has very wisely taken power to strike off from the roll any woman who proves herself unworthy of the great trust now reposed in a professional Nurse. The only wonder is that such a sensible and, indeed, necessary step as this had not been taken long ago. It is a serious fact that there are hundreds of women in our midst at work as Nurses who are destitute both of knowledge and character, while the revelations before the House of Lords' Select Committee proved that at least one London Hospital, which professes to supply 'thoroughly-

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