

sion, for the act to be performed is on behalf, and in the name of, the King:—

1. Two Police Inspectors, with bared heads, saying in loud sonorous tones, "Hats off, strangers!"
2. The Serjeant-at-Arms carrying the mace;
3. The Speaker and his train-bearers;
4. Two Clerks of the House of Commons;
5. Black Rod, carrying his black staff surmounted by a golden lion;
6. Cabinet Ministers;
7. Ordinary Members (a few of them).

They pass in dignified silence through the avenue of His Majesty's loyal subjects and enter the House of Lords, followed by that little group of interested women. The Royal Assent, when not given by the King in person, is given by a Commission of Peers appointed for the purpose. The Clerk of the Parliament reads the Assent. It is given in quaint old French—" *Le roy le veult* " (the King wills it). A swift stroke of the pen, preceded by this beautiful bit of symbolic ritual, and the culminating touch is put to the victory of the trained nurses. The seal is set which makes it law. Our hearts go out in gratitude to all the Members of both Houses whose sense of justice induced them to support our claim. More especially are we indebted to Lord Amptill and Major Barnett, whose whole-hearted devotion to our cause has done so much to gain the final victory; our debt to them we are most happy to record.

BEATRICE KENT.

## THE NURSES' REGISTRATION ACTS.

### THE NURSES REGISTRATION BILLS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Last week we reported the progress of the Nurses Registration Bills in the House of Lords up to Tuesday evening, December 16th, when the English and Irish Bills, as amended, passed through the Committee stage.

#### December 17th.

On Wednesday evening, December 17th, or rather at 12.45 a.m. on Thursday morning, the three Bills were further considered.

#### NURSES REGISTRATION (No. 2) BILL (ENGLAND AND WALES) REPORT STAGE.

The Amendments to the Nurses Registration (No. 2) Bill were reported according to Order.

LORD SANDHURST then said he had some amendments, but assured the House that they were drafting amendments, and did not alter the principle of the Bill. He therefore moved them *en bloc*.

The first amendment referred to Clause 3, which provides that Rules made under this section shall be laid before each House of Parliament, that if

an address is presented to His Majesty by either House praying that a Rule may be annulled or modified, His Majesty in Council may annul or modify the Rule, and if annulled it shall thenceforth be void. The new words added by Lord Sandhurst were, "And if modified it shall thenceforth have effect as so modified."

In Clause 6, dealing with admission to the Register of persons trained outside the United Kingdom, Lord Sandhurst's amendment substitutes for the words "registered as a nurse" the words, "registered either generally as a nurse for the sick, or as a nurse of some special class."

Drafting amendments were also made in Clause 8, which deals with the Penalties for unlawful assumption of the title of Registered Nurse and for falsification of the Register.

The Amendments were agreed to, and the Bill ordered to be read a third time on Thursday, December 18th.

#### NURSES REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL, REPORT STAGE.

The Amendments to the Bill were reported according to Order.

LORD SANDHURST moved *en bloc* amendments to the Bill which he said were also drafting amendments, and which were practically the same as those to No. 2 Bill.

#### NURSES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) BILL IN COMMITTEE.

The House then went into Committee on the Nurses Registration (Scotland) Bill, according to Order.

LORD SANDHURST said, "The object of the Amendments standing in my name is to bring the Bill into conformity with the other measures. I only wish to call attention to the Amendment in Clause 3, page 2, line 30, which leaves out that part of the clause which had to do with a lady being one of the examining body. I have put this Amendment in at the request of Lord Kintore, who would have moved it, if he had been present."

The Amendments, including that to which Lord Sandhurst specially called attention, were then agreed to, and the Report ordered to be received on Thursday, December 18th.

#### December 18th.

#### THIRD READING OF THE THREE BILLS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, December 18th, the Nurses Registration (No. 2) Bill was read a third time, and passed, and returned to the Commons.

The Nurses Registration (Ireland) Bill was read a third time. Lord Sandhurst moved two drafting amendments which were agreed to, upon which he moved further "that the Bill do pass." The Bill was then passed and returned to the Commons.

Amendments to the Nurses Registration (Scotland) Bill were then reported according to Order. Then (Standing Order XXXIX having been suspended) the Bill was read a third time and passed and returned to the Commons.

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