

I awoke with a start from a dream, in which it seemed to me that someone was gently tapping tin-tacks into my brain with a hammer—quite a painless operation, I assure you. I, at once, became aware of a curious, muffled sound on the other side of the wall, and awoke Nurse Carew. We listened.

"Someone is in pain and needs help. Come along!" Together we entered the next little room to our own. It was dark, but from the glimmer of gas from the passage I could see a white figure stretched on the floor close to the wall. Whilst I hesitated, Nurse Carew lighted the gas, and in a moment was on her knees beside the prostrate figure. She took her hand, felt the pulse, and gently raised the head from the boards, and for a few seconds she gazed at her intently, and then she looked up at me.

What a look! The flame from her eyes flashed past me, and seemed to scorch me where I stood—burning anger—withering scorn—deadly, deadly hate.

But when she spoke her voice seemed full of tears.

"Come and help me," she said softly.

Together we raised the poor girl from the floor, and laid her in bed. She was quite sensible, her eyes distended, the breath coming raspingly through the poor parched throat.

She pointed to the water-bottle, which, as usual, was empty.

"Water!" she gasped huskily; and what we gave her she swallowed drop by drop with horrible effort and pain. "Throat—"

"Don't attempt to speak," commands Nurse Carew. "I know all that you would say. You returned to the Hospital yesterday. You have not been well for ten days; your throat pained you; you complained to Home Sister. She sent you to bed; you have seen no one since. You have had no food, no fire, no treatment. I have heard your story before," smiling palely: "you slept the earlier part of the night; you awoke clutching at your throat. You tried to call out, but your voice had gone; you got out of bed and crawled to the wall; you fainted—for how long, God knows! Then you beat and scratched at the wall, and tore your nails; I see; poor hands, poor hands!" And then, turning to me, she said brusquely, "Put on your dressing-gown, and sit here till I return. I am going to Night Sister."

I obey, and kneel down by the bedside, and the poor girl leans her head on my shoulder. The distressed expression of her face and fight for breath is very terrible. I am inexpressibly shocked and grieved, and quite unable to speak.

As I wait, the clock strikes four.

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SAINT OLAVE'S UNION.—NIGHT NURSES at the Infirmary. The Guardians of this Union will, at their meeting, to be held on Thursday, Jan. 7th, 1892, at three o'clock p.m., proceed to the ELECTION of DAY and NIGHT NURSES for their Infirmary, Lower Road, Rotherhithe, S.E. The salary is £20 per annum, rising £1 a year until a maximum salary of £25 per annum is reached, with rations, washing, lodging, and uniform. Candidates to be not less than 21 years of age, and have had at least one year's experience in Nursing in some public institution. Applications (with copies of testimonials), to be made upon forms, to be obtained on written application to me, and enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope of foolscap size. The applications for the appointments must be returned to me not later than Dec. 29th, 1891, and candidates will be required to attend at the Infirmary, Lower Road, Rotherhithe, S.E., on Dec. 30th, 1891, at four p.m.—By order, E. Pitts Fenton, Clerk to the Guardians, Clerk's Offices, St. Olave's Union, 30, Tanner Street, S.E., Dec. 10th, 1891.

GREAT YARMOUTH HOSPITAL. (Beds 42).—LADY PROBATIONERS wanted for one year each; one about February 1st next, and the other about 1st March next. Premium to be paid by each £20, in two instalments, £10 down and £10 at end of six months. Committee give board and lodging and £2 towards washing. No salary.—For further particulars and form of application apply to Ernest Leech, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, for the WEST BROMWICH DISTRICT HOSPITAL, a MATRON.—Salary £50 per annum, with board, &c. Candidates must have had Hospital training, and be thoroughly experienced in housekeeping. Applications, stating age, &c., to be sent (with not more than three recent testimonials), on or before the 10th inst., to the Honorary Secretary, William Bache, Esq., Churchill House, West Bromwich. Canvassing members of the Board will be a disqualification.—By order of the Board, W. H. Laban, Secretary.

CENTRAL LONDON SCHOOL DISTRICT.—Wanted, for the OPTHALMIC SCHOOL, HANWELL, Middlesex, CHARGE NURSES, and ASSISTANT NURSES. Preference will be given to those having had Hospital experience. Also a NURSE for the Infirmary, possessing Certificate of Training. The salary will be for Charge Nurses, £26, rising £1 annually to £30; per annum; for Assistant Nurses, £18, rising £1 annually to £20; and for Infirmary Nurse, £22, rising £2 annually to £26; in each case with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Applications (on printed forms, obtainable at my office as under, or by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope) to the Superintendent, Central London District School, Hanwell, W.; and selected candidates will have notice to attend before the Committee.—George E. East, Clerk to the Board of Management, 10, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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