or languages, artists, authors, schoolmistresses, trained hospital nurses, clerks in His Majesty's Civil Service, or in any other similar manner needing the like, or analogous culture."

Not only did Mr. Andrew make the bequest, but he left definite and detailed instructions as to the nature and equipment of the home, and, himself a collector of antiques, directed that it should be furnished with antique furniture, the result is a home of rare charm.

A trained nurse who has had the good fortune to be entertained there writes:—"It is a glorious spot, and the country around is lovely. Everyone is very charming and it is quite a home from home. There are eleven other guests just at present, the nursing profession is in the majority, and Bart.'s is well to the fore. They are quite a jolly crowd, and now a professional dancer of twenty summers has come into our midst and the place hums when she is around. The house itself is just a

dream of delight. One could write pages and pages of all the wonderful old furniture, paintings, and carvings."

Naturally the number of applicants always far exceeds the possibility of accommodation, and the length of stay is limited to three weeks, unless the Medical Superintendent thinks it advisable for a guest to have an extension.

The unrest in the world at large appears to be reflected in the nursing

world also. At the Oldmill Hospital, Aberdeen, where the nurse-superintendent, Miss Elizabeth J. Nicoll, was requested to resign within twenty-four hours, and, refusing to do so, received twenty-four hours' notice, twenty-three nurses went out on strike, indignant at the treatment meted out to their superintendent, and demanding her reinstatement. She is, they declared, an official of the highest efficiency and character, whose constant aim has been to maintain discipline amongst the nursing staff. Thereupon the Governor warned them to leave the institution by noon on a certain day, after which time they would be treated as trespassers. The nurses have now been served with an initial writ in an application to the Sheriff for an ejectment order, on the ground that, having left the service of the hospital, and received notice to quit, they have no right to remain on the premises. They have now left the institution without waiting for the writ to become effective.

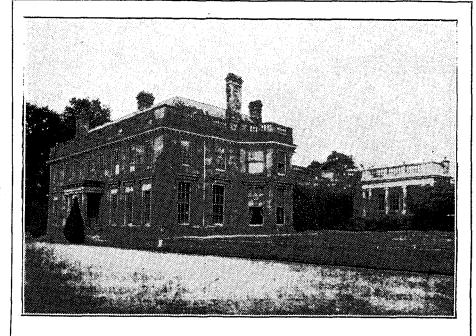
One development is that two slander actions have been raised in the small Debt Court where the Labour Master, Mr. Samuel Reid, sued the nurse-superintendent for reporting to a Sub-Committee of the Parish Council that he and a member of the nursing staff were in each other's company at one o'clock in the morning, on a certain date. Mr. Reid averred that the statement meant, and was intended to mean, that improper relations existed between him and the member of the nursing staff in question.

Two nurses who reported the matter, were sued by the Labour Master in another action. The cases were postponed.

At a meeting of the Eltham Board of Guardians (Folkestone) on November 20th, the report of the Master that two nurses who were refused late leave, was discussed. The Master stated that the nurses went out

in spite of the refusal, and did not return until after twelve o'clock, when they climbed a fifteen foot fence. Incidentally the Master reported that three men had been on duty all night looking for a man or men who were stated to have climbed over a wall to the nurses' home.

A member asked if the men were burglars or sweethearts. They did not want three men permanently watching if the



THE "FREDERICK ANDREW" CONVALESCENT HOME.

visitors were sweethearts. Mrs. Ball said it was reported that some one whistled outside, and there was an answering whistle from inside—anincitement to come in.

Councillor E. Osborne said they appeared to be surrounding the institution with guards and walls, and expressed the opinion that nurses, nowadays, required somewhat different treatment to that which they had before the war.

## APOLOGY.

In the November issue of The British Journal of Nursing on page 247 certain unjustifiable personal remarks were made with reference to Nurses' Fees and to the management of the Willesden General Hospital by the Chairman and Committee of such Hospital. The Editor, Proprietors and Printers of The British Journal of Nursing without any qualification whatever withdraw those remarks and express the deepest regret that such remarks were allowed to appear.

previous page next page