

Registration of Nurses in any country, but she did invaluable pioneer work in many other directions. In 1877 she opened the Carnarvon Hospital for private patients, and in this connection received from the Governor a large bog oak cross mounted in gold and fastened to a ribbon with the Government Seal "in grateful remembrance of invaluable services."

During the Boer War she was shut up in Kimberley during the siege, and organised temporary hospitals for the sick and wounded. During her last years, with her friend Miss Watkins, she started her cherished plan of a School of Midwifery which would train Midwives to attend the poor classes in Kimberley and elsewhere, in their own homes. Her joy was great when six of her pupils passed the Government Examination with honour. She died in 1911 and will always be remembered as a great personality, one of many women who may be classed as Empire Builders—for without these spiritually-minded and humanitarian women, British Rule in the Dominions would not have attained, as it has done, the universal acclamation due to justice and humanity.

MARTHA DURWARD FARQUHARSON.

Miss Martha Durward Farquharson, one of the Foundation Members of the International Council of Nurses, has been a pioneer of Nursing Education in Australia. She entered the Nurses' Training School at the Crumpsall Infirmary in 1882, and subsequently did private nursing in connection with the Mildmay Deaconesses Nursing Home. In 1884 she was appointed Matron of the Coast Hospital, Sydney, and after other experience held the position from 1890-1900 of Matron of the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, where she did a great work for the better education of nurses, afterwards continuing her work under less strenuous conditions as Matron of the Bendigo Hospital, but returning to the Alfred Hospital for a time during the Great War.

As an Hon. Member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland Miss Farquharson kept in touch with her colleagues in this country, and was at one time a frequent and valued contributor of articles in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

Miss Farquharson was a woman of great public spirit, deeply interested in the progress of the profession of nursing. Holding her vocation in the highest esteem she was able to inspire her pupils with high ideals, and her name inscribed on the Scroll of Honour of The British College of Nurses will, we hope, inspire many of her colleagues to emulate her virtues.

CATHERINE GRACE LOCH, R.R.C.

Miss Catherine Grace Loch, R.R.C., one of the pioneers whose work adds lustre to the Nursing Profession, was trained at the Royal County Hospital, Winchester, but the greater part of her nursing life in this country was spent at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, first as Night Superintendent and then as Sister of Darker Ward, where she won a high reputation as organiser, teacher, and example, and gained the experience which qualified her for the great pioneer position to which she was appointed in 1887, as one of the two Lady Superintendents charged with the task of inaugurating in India a system of skilled nursing in the hospitals of the British troops, which she developed as the Indian Army Nursing Service. She arrived in India in March, 1888, and until her retirement in 1902, owing to failing health, her great abilities were devoted to promoting its work, prestige, and honour.

She received the Royal Red Cross in 1891, when the award of this decoration was rare, for her services in connection with the Black Mountain Expedition, an honour which she greatly appreciated.

On her return home Miss Loch was formally offered a seat on the Board meeting at the India Office to select nursing candidates for the Indian Nursing Service, an appointment which immensely pleased and gratified her, and of which her sister wrote that she "believed it prolonged her life, for it quite broke her heart when she had to resign her own work in the Service, and this appointment gave her a little hold on the former life and interest."

Miss Loch was one of the few Superintendents in high places who, in the nineteenth century, had the courage to come forward and support the demand for the State Registration of Nurses. As a cultured and highly-educated gentlewoman she believed in culture and education as the basis of professional work, and seated at the high table at the Dinner held in London to celebrate the Grant of the Royal Charter to the Royal British Nurses' Association in 1892, she spoke eloquently of the need for legal status for the profession of which she was such a devoted member, and to which she was so bright an example.

She had a most attractive personality, a lovable nature and a keen sense of humour, and considerable talent, always good naturedly exercised, as a caricaturist. She also took a keen pleasure in the beauties of Nature, so that travel was a great delight to her.

JANET WINIFRED THORPE.

A most inspiring personality in the history of nursing progress in India, was Sister J. W. Thorpe, trained at the Richmond Hospital, Dublin, and deeply interested, even during her training, in Mission work in India.

It is recorded of her that almost entirely to her splendid zeal and enthusiasm were due the formation and organisation of, first, the Association of Nursing Superintendents of India and later of the Trained Nurses' Association.

She worked untiringly as Secretary and Treasurer of these associations, when the work entailed must have been a heavy tax in addition to her already manifold duties. She inspired all those with whom she came in contact, and by organising these two associations she has left her mark on the Nursing Profession of India.

Her enthusiasm was unflagging, and her dearest hope was to see nursing in India put on a thoroughly satisfactory basis, and brought up as nearly as possible to the standard of nursing at home. She believed that the associations will set a very high standard of work and character among the nurses of India, and that they will help to support them in the difficulties that are well nigh insurmountable alone.

Miss Thorpe's valuable life was terminated suddenly by a fall from a wall. It is presumed that she was walking upon it before retiring to rest and fell over it. Her body was found at its foot next morning. Her name is remembered in India with gratitude and affection.

MILITARY NURSING.

Imperial and Indian Services Amalgamated.

The War Office announces that the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service and the Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service for India have been amalgamated with effect from November 1st, 1926.

The normal tour of duty in India for members of the amalgamated service below the rank of principal matron will be five years, and the rates of pay and allowances, and conditions of service of members on the Indian Establishment will be as laid down in Indian Army Regulations.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)