

CARE AND KINDNESS FOR OUR ELDERLY NURSES.

Coming into contact with our elderly colleagues—whose services in past wars have left the country deeply in their debt—it has been surprising to learn of their suffering both from ill-health and lack of means, and when recently we learned that “bread and marg.” was the chief of the diet of one who had in the past spent herself in the country’s service through several wars, we made a point of coming into contact with others. It was a relief to find that at the beautiful “British Home and Hospital for Incurables” at Crown Lane, Streatham, at least one disabled Sister was enjoying the wonderful care and comfort this rich country should provide for those whose health and strength have been spent in helping the sick and wounded in happier years.

From time to time we have held communion with this now fortunate colleague and with her usual sense of responsibility and gratitude she permits us to present her portrait in bed where she enjoys every attention and comfort possible, disabled as she is.

Her bed, she tells us, “is near a window” which she considers a great privilege, as through it the scene is varied and she is never dull.

With the nationalisation of charity, a threat which we know will be resisted, presumably such beautiful and beneficent institutions as the British Home and Hospital for Incurables at Streatham and elsewhere, would be administered by business Boards, and the soul of sympathy, presumably out of date, would be relegated to its place!

We hope we do not live to see the day when humanity will be discouraged from extending the hand of kindness to those in need of a touch, the liberation of which warms the heart.

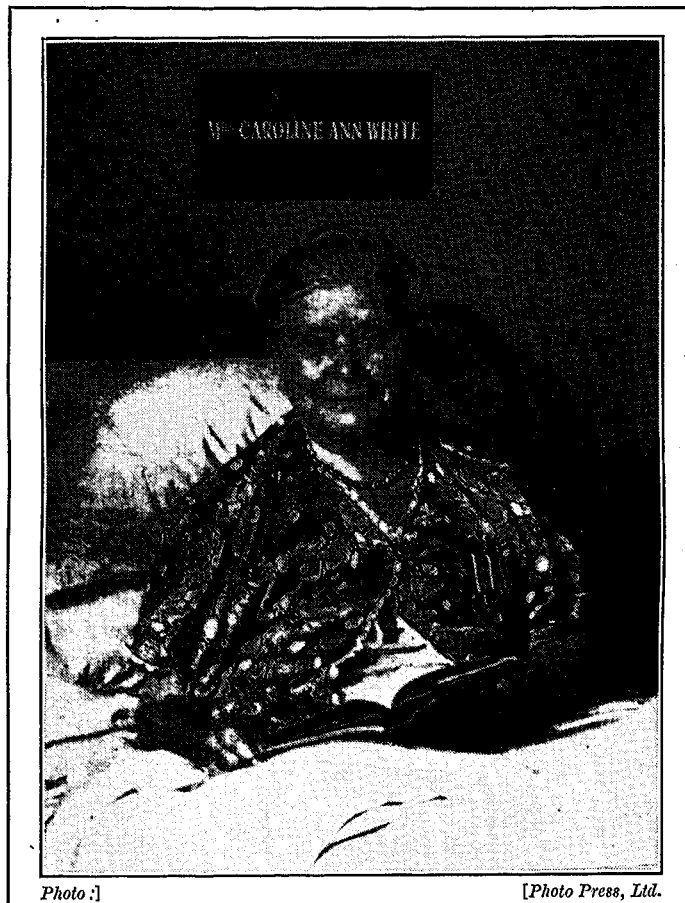
Miss Jessie Isabella Holmes, whose portrait here appears, is seen in her bed at the British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Streatham, the Report of its wonderful work now having become so happily organised

that it is a pattern to those who sympathise with life-long suffering.

Miss Holmes is a highly trained Registered Nurse, whose record of service for her country in the first Great War, 1914, covered years of most useful service. To add to her nursing qualifications she is a certified Midwife, Certificated Masseuse, Trained Secretary, Unit Administrator Q.M.A.A.C. Five years War Service, for which she has been awarded British, French and Belgian Medals. She is a member of the Royal British Nurses’ Association, a Fellow of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., and has also kept her mind

green in association with other interests, travel and authorship. Now that Miss Holmes has found rest and interests at her present home, she has made a gift of several interesting possessions to the British College of Nurses, Ltd., amongst them a small table, formerly the property of the great Napoleon, which with other treasures escaped injury from the bomb from the blast of which, No. 19, Queen’s Gate, S.W.7, was so seriously injured and which apparently after the lapse of nearly two years, there is no power of restoration by the Government!

To return to Streatham, should any reader of this Journal know of generous people who wish to help a most beneficent institution we advise them to get into touch with Mr. Paul H. Steele, M.A., Secretary, British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Crown



MISS JESSIE ISABELLA HOLMES S.R.N., S.G.M., M.R.B.N.A., F.B.C.N.

Lane, Streatham, S.W.16.

There are still many old nurses struggling to live decently upon most limited means, and those of us who have health and strength should make every effort to help them to greater comfort. Ask yourself this Christmas: Have I done my duty in this particular or not?

We have to acknowledge with sincere thanks the following donations “in aid of our Christmas Fund for Elderly Nurses” :—

	£	s.	d.
Miss I. M. Stainton	2	0	0
The small staff of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, Walton-on-Thames ...	0	13	0
	£2	13	0

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