

serted: the springs never seem to go wrong. For India, a warm mattress is undesirable, and what is one to use over the wire? Some like to use matting in a ticking cover. Others prefer not to have wire at all: they like something firmer, not liable to rust, easily cleaned, etc. For this reason some apply *nawāh*, i.e., three inch wide cotton tapes woven across the frame. They claim that it is easily applied and removed, and is washable. From personal enquiries at many hospitals I doubt whether in a busy, large hospital these tapes get washed oftener than once in three months.

I recommend a really strong canvas with eyelets, and a quarter-inch rope lashing it to the frame. This can be applied in five minutes and can be washed as often as necessary. The "Whitfield Bedstead Co.," have met my wishes, quoting as follows:—Bedstead 6'-6" × 3'-0", No. 1188, 1½" head and foot bows, ½" filling; height to seat 20," head bow 36" high, foot bow 26, with tubes all round to take canvas lashed to the bedstead. In quantities of 16 so as to pack in a closed case at 17s. 4d. each, freight paid to Bombay = Rs. 13 each. The pattern of washable strong canvas, eyeletted and complete with white cord, is 5s each = Rs. 3-12. Total Rs. 16-12. This would seem to me an excellent and very cheap as well as sanitary bedstead.

Frames of this kind can be seen at Victoria Zenana Hospital, Delhi, and at Karachi. For samples of the canvas or drawings of the bedstead, application should be made to the Whitfield Bedstead Co., Birmingham.

CAMA AND ALBLESS HOSPITALS, BOMBAY.

BY MISS TINDALL, LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

ON June 27th the first Examination under the thoroughly organized system of 1st, 2nd and 3rd year lectures to all pupils of whatever caste or creed, on Anatomy and Physiology (Elementary), Nursing and Midwifery respectively was held in the lecture room of the Nurses' Home. There were in all fifteen pupils for Anatomy and Physiology, first year, two for Midwifery chiefly with a question or two on the subjects of the previous years, it being the final, third year, followed by a Viva for Midwifery, and one outsider for Midwifery only: in all eighteen. Dr. Rukhmabai, of Surat, most kindly came to Bombay purposely for the examination and spent all day with me.

The papers were all written in the morning, the Vivas after tiffin.

The following are the questions set, each pupil having hers in whatever dialect she preferred; four were in English, ten in Marathi, and two in Guzerathi.

The questions, at my request, were put in a very understandable form, as the Indian women are but little accustomed to writing examination papers, and our desire is not to mystify them, but to find out whether they have a clear understanding of the structure and formation of the body and organs, and their uses. I have no doubt whatever that with the regular system-I

have inaugurated there will be a very great improvement in this respect, although we are not training our nurses for an educational profession but for nursing.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

1. Name the various bones in the skull and describe their relative positions.
2. What are the openings leading into the pharynx?
3. Describe the construction of the eyes.
4. Where in the body is the heart situated?
 - (a) Describe its size, shape, and construction of its cavity.
 - (b) What are the names of the veins leading to it, and arteries arising from it?

PHYSIOLOGY.

1. Where and how is the venous blood in the body changed into arterial blood?
 - (a) What is the difference between arterial and venous blood?
 - (b) What are the uses of the blood in the body?
2. Describe the structure and function of the *Brain*.
3. How many *Kidneys* are there in the body? Describe their size, shape, situation and construction.
4. Describe in full the process of digestion, from mastication to defæcation; *i. e.*, how the secretions of the various digestive organs act on food from the time it is put in the mouth till it is excreted.

THIRD YEAR PAPER.

NURSING.

1. What would you do for a fainting fit? What are the causes of fainting fits, and what treatment would be given for same?
2. How does infection spread?
3. Name the different kinds of disinfectants; how will you prepare the lotions and what is their strength?

MIDWIFERY.

1. What are the relative positions of the different organs in the Pelvis; *i. e.*, uterus, ovaries, Fallopian tubes, bladder and rectum?
2. (a) What are the different kinds of deformed pelves? (b) How are they caused?
3. What is the mechanism of labour in a normal case? Give movements and positions.
4. How would a nurse manage a transverse presentation case with the child's hand protruding from the vagina?
5. What are the dangers in twin pregnancy, (a) to the mother, (b) to the children, and what positions are the children likely to take?

6. What would you do in external hæmorrhage in a case of Placenta Prævia, and what symptoms would there be in a case of concealed hæmorrhage in Placenta Prævia?
7. If in ninth month of pregnancy a patient has œdema of face and feet (a) what are the dangers, and (b) how would a nurse arrest it?
8. What are the dangers in complete abortion?
9. Give the foetal circulation.

The results were as follows :—

<i>Third year.</i>		max. 100.
1. Nurse Parvatibai	...	95
2. „ Lilavatibai	...	90
Midwifery only	} Nurse King	90
Three years train- ed elsewhere.		
<i>First year.</i>		
1. Nurse Davids	...	90
2. „ Davey	...	90
3. „ Sarasvatibai	...	90
4. „ Chandrabai	...	75
5. „ Krishnabai Gopal	...	75
6. „ Pillanbai	...	75
7. „ Yashoodabai	...	60
8. „ Muktabai	...	60
9. „ Butiabai	...	60
10. „ Chimangowribai	...	60
11. „ Laxmibai	...	60
12. „ Sundrabai	...	60—Careless.
13. „ Sagunabai	...	50
14. „ Ahyliabai	...	50
15. „ Tarabai Kapadia	...	40

Excellent.

Very good.

Fairly good.

Fair.

Poor.

The ward work of the two "Final" nurses has been excellent, both being exceptionally reliable and thorough, especially Parvatibai, whose general conduct has been on a par with her work, very far above the generality of native nurses in cleanliness, tidiness and general comportment. Lilavatibai's conduct has been marred by one or two contretemps, but since some evil companions have been removed, there has been nothing to complain of at all. The "Viva Voce" for Midwifery was *excellent*; practically no mistake whatever being made by either of them, in spite of many and varied questions involving a thorough knowledge of mechanism and abnormal labours. I have known many a C. M. B. Examination far easier than this, and I have not the *slightest* doubt that if that Board would consent to send their papers out to India, our nurses would take high places. They have both conducted over seventy cases; which reminds me that we had a beautiful "Mole pregnancy" a few days ago,

just bunches of grapes of varying sizes, and two nights after some hæmorrhage followed by another smaller mass. I sent every pupil to see it, so that when their turn in the Midwifery wards comes they will remember and understand.

This is the general report that Dr. Rukhmabai sends me:—

"I was glad to find that the pupil nurses whom you kindly asked me to examine last month at the Cama Hospital were on the whole taking intelligent interest in their work.

From their examination papers it seems that they are taking pains to understand the lectures that are given them in Anatomy and Physiology, Nursing and Midwifery.

Their knowledge of the subjects appears to be better than their capacity to write it down on paper in good order, as they are not used to writing out. If I may, I would suggest that a monthly writing out examination may be instituted in the future.

The third year pupils in their final examination showed careful training and good knowledge of their profession; what amused me rather was their studied readiness to say in answering questions in Midwifery—after doing this or that in difficult cases—'Send for the doctor and await his or her orders' or 'the doctor will do the rest'!

One only wishes they kept to their word when in practice. Generally they are too fond of taking the law into their own hands and passing off as doctors in private practice!—RUKHMABAI, M.D."

July 10th, 1910.

THE NURSING WORLD.

THE *British Journal of Nursing* still speaks of the terrible loss which the death of Miss Isla Stewart has been to the nursing world. The Registration Bill for which she worked so constantly is now before Parliament and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick is ably leading the forces who are determined to win. On the other hand the Hon. Sydney Holland relaxes none of his opposition, and as the Bill is still a "private member's Bill" only, the fight may be a protracted one. But it is to be hoped that Parliament will call to mind the case of the Midwives' Bill, which took ten years to become law, but when law proved at once that ten years of a national blessing had been lost. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick recently had an article in *The Nineteenth Century* dealing with the question. The urgent need for the State Registration of Nurses has been newly demonstrated in the exposures in *John Bull* of so-called Nursing Homes and Institutions for Massage, which have been found to be nothing but houses of prostitution under the disguise of the name and uniform so much loved and respected.