

THE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES IN TORONTO.

MUCH is being thought and written at the present time on the higher education of women, and many young women of means are availing themselves of the privileges of college and university training, but there are still many others of limited means in need of occupation—women possessed of some degree of culture and refinement, who look in vain for some suitable outlet for their energies. We would direct the attention of such to the advantages which a Training School for Nurses affords for the cultivation of both the intellectual and the moral nature.

There has been a too-prevalent impression that it is a waste of ability for an educated woman to become a nurse, but those who have tried it know that, on the contrary, there is in this work room for the exercise of talents of the highest, and virtues of the rarest, order. Professor Gross once said, that myriads of human beings perish annually in the so-called civilized world for want of good nursing, and that this country needs a million Florence Nightingales, and half that number of John Howards, to aid physicians in their strife with disease and death.

It was to meet this need that Training-Schools were first established, and it was that this Canada of ours might not be behind other countries, that in Toronto in 1881, a Training-School for Nurses was established, with sixteen pupils, in connection with the Toronto General Hospital.

During its earlier years, it laboured under many disadvantages, but at present it is in a flourishing condition, with thirty-five pupils constantly in attendance. This Training School has been a centre from which other hospitals have drawn, for at the present time five of the hospitals in On-

tario (London, Kingston, Brantford, The Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto, The Lakeside Home, Toronto Island) are superintended by graduates from this school, while other graduates are engaged in hospital work, or as professional nurses in private families, both in the United States and the Dominion.

The training consists of practical work in the hospital wards, together with weekly lectures, delivered by the visiting staff, and a class conducted by the Lady Superintendent, Miss Snively. These lectures are gratuitously given by our most prominent physicians, and embrace a large number of subjects, viz.: Diseases of the Nervous System, Dr. Cameron; Materia Medica, Dr. Geo. Wright; Gynecological Nursing and Qualifications of a Nurse, Dr. A. H. Wright; Minor Surgery, Dr. Grasett; Diseases of the Respiratory Organs and Poisons, Dr. G. A. Peters; Eruptive Diseases, Dr. A. A. McDonald; Obstetrics, Dr. J. Burns; The Eye and Ear, Dr. Reeve; Emergencies, Dr. J. MacCallum.

The Toronto Training-School is modelled after that of Bellevue Hospital, New York, of which the Lady Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital is a distinguished Canadian graduate. Miss Snively entered upon her present duties some two years ago, and, to quote from an address delivered by an eminent Toronto physician on the occasion of the presentation of diplomas to the graduating class of nurses for 1886, "is pre-eminently qualified for the position which she holds." It is a matter of simple justice to add that the credit of the present high reputation of the Training-School, and of the great improvement which has taken place in it, during the past two years, in many respects, is due to the Lady Superintendent.

Applicants for admission must be