

promise that we hoped to have them so soon. That hope was not fulfilled for years, and to your matron we must give the credit for that which I have long wished to see accomplished. I have visited very many hospitals in England, France, Germany, and America, and I cannot call to mind one in which the nurses were not in what the Princess called uniform. She is the best nurse who can subordinate her ideas to those in authority, and who performs her work cheerfully, quietly, and without excitement. I do not expect that this ideal picture will be filled by every nurse; but the nearer she approaches it, the better for herself and her patient.

Your duties in this hospital are systematized and mapped out for you, and are more or less of a routine character. You have your matron and the house physician to appeal to when in doubt, and let me advise you, whenever the doubt exists in your mind how to proceed, to apply to them. They will think none the less of you for so doing; indeed, they should think more of you, inasmuch as it will prove to them that you are cautious and wish to do your duty correctly. But you must not lean too heavily upon them, for by so doing you will not be fitted to take the responsibility that will necessarily be thrown upon you when you leave this institution.

You will be brought in contact with all classes. Some will appreciate your kind services, others would do so if they knew how to express their feelings; others, again, are brutal in their ideas, feelings, and associations, and might wound your self-respect by coarse and vulgar remarks. Should such conduct ever be exhibited towards you, meet it with dignified silence; never retort, but proceed with your work, and report the matter to the matron or the house surgeon.

Your eye will greatly assist your memory; observe carefully what is being done about you, note the symptoms and appearance of the patients under your care. Learn how to