

household, from the castle to the cellar tenement, wherever pain and disease are rife, exercising her glorious calling with kindness and gentleness, regardless of the breath of pestilence. She does not hesitate to make her home in the fever hospital, daring the fate the bravest well might shun. Such women should, and I believe do, command the esteem and respect of every right-thinking individual.

I may be asked, What qualifications are required for making a good nurse? This question is more easily asked than answered, so much depends upon intelligence, disposition, manner, and, I might add, personal appearance. Some adopt the calling from necessity, others from a sentimental desire to do good. But *all*, before commencing the study, should be satisfied that nursing is their vocation, that they have a fondness for attending the sick, and that they possess the physical strength to perform the work.

The nurse who intends to win in the field of competition must have her heart in her work, and should possess intelligence enough to take ideas and directions quickly. She should possess a kind, patient, gentle, and sympathizing disposition. Her manner should be bright and cheerful, not boisterous, but gliding quietly and gracefully about her work, recollecting that noise of any kind is out of place in a sick room. Her hand should be light and dexterous; nothing is more repugnant to the eye of a friend, or to the feeling of a patient, than rough handling. When speak of personal appearance, I do not mean to convey the idea that a pretty face is the consideration. The *tout ensemble* should take the eye; she should be neatly and becomingly dressed, and tidy in her personal appearance. In a hospital her dress should be such as to distinguish her from the other working staff; indeed, the same may be said when she is at private nursing. I recollect when the Princess Louise visited this hospital, among her first remarks to me was: "I see your nurses are not in uniform." Having no valid reason to assign for the omission, I contented myself with the