

VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES.

EXPLANATORY.

The Queen herself has indicated her desire that the celebrations to mark the sixtieth year of her reign should be associated with efforts towards relieving the sick and suffering.

The services of trained nurses are recognized by physicians and other educated citizens everywhere as helping to lessen the danger of all forms of sickness, to mitigate suffering where that is inevitable, and to be frequently the means of saving life.

All who have studied the subject are agreed that there is **need for thoroughly trained nurses in the homes of the sick poor** and others who cannot now obtain them, and that such nurses would confer great benefits on the community.

In order that **trained nurses** may be able to do as much good as possible, by visiting in their own homes the sick who cannot be taken to hospitals, and who cannot afford a private trained nurse, it is evident that, in addition to the training in hospital nursing, they should be **specially trained to nurse patients in their houses** where the appliances, conveniences and conditions of the hospital are not at hand.

The trained nurses who receive this additional training in home nursing, and nurse the sick by visiting a number of cases (probably from six to ten) in a day, are called **District Visiting Nurses or District Nurses**.

The special training in home nursing is of great value in **nursing in rural or sparsely settled districts**. In addition to the best of hospital training, they have received instruction, training, practice and experience in making the best of the conditions which they find in the small sick rooms which they visit.