

Nursing Echoes.

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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS CHRISTIAN is to return to England on the 7th inst., and we hope she will not have long to wait before her arduous efforts on behalf of Nurses are crowned with the success they deserve. The attitude of the gentlemen in general practice in England—in according the request for the Royal Charter for the R.B.N.A. such an enthusiastic amount of support—shows how wise our Princess has been in her judgment this burning question of Nursing reform. We all acknowledge that, whether the Charter be granted or not, all future generations of Nurses will owe her an incalculable debt of gratitude.



MISS MARGARET ALICE LAYCOCK, M.R.B.N.A., has been appointed Matron of the Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital. Miss LAYCOCK holds a Certificate for four years' training at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, having commenced her Nursing career in 1884. In 1888 she was appointed Matron of the Manchester Ship Canal Hospital, Ellesmere Port, which post she has held with distinction until the present date. I feel sure that the Committee of the Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital have done wisely in appointing a Matron with such excellent practical experience. Miss LAYCOCK was selected from forty-eight candidates.

UNDER the immediate patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN, a series of *tableaux vivants*, illustrating the history of needlework, will be given on May 19th and 20th, at Queen's Gate Hall, on behalf of the Royal School of Art Needlework.

H.E. THE COUNTESS OF ZETLAND gave her annual entertainment to the Nurses of the various Institutes and Hospitals in Dublin on the 22nd ult. The guests, over one hundred in number, who included representatives of all the Nursing Sisterhoods in Dublin, were received by Her Excellency at the Castle. Tea having been

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served, Lady ZETLAND showed the whole party over the viceregal stables, which are well worthy of inspection; boats and water velocipedes were provided on the lake, and several of the Nurses enjoyed a drive with Lady MAUD DUNDAS through the grounds, where the band of the Gloucester Regiment played delightfully during the afternoon, and about 6.30 p.m. the party separated, after a most enjoyable afternoon.

THE Dublin Health Society is, in a limited degree, doing the same good work in Ireland which the National Health Society does in this country. Lately it has organised a series of practical and interesting lectures. The efforts of this society and its indefatigable Hon. Secretary, Miss HAMILTON STUBBER, cannot be too highly estimated, especially in a city so notoriously unhealthy as Dublin unfortunately happens to be. The lectures to the poor in many of the congested parts of the city have already begun to bear fruit, and much greater and more important results may be expected, as the knowledge of sanitary matters and hygiene is diffused among the poorer classes.

AN interesting correspondence has lately taken place in *The Times*, concerning the important question of Nursing in India, and from all I hear there can be little doubt that many more Trained Nurses are needed in that vast empire. Surgeon-Colonel J. BUTLER HAMILTON, whose letter I append below, is evidently a man of great experience and sound commonsense, and I should advise enthusiastic young Nurses, to read and think seriously of all he says, before being rushed into forming themselves into a new "Co." and immediately willy-nilly steaming off to India. It must not be forgotten that the climate is a very trying one to European working women, and that the duties of a Nurse are thus rendered doubly onerous. But, to quote Surgeon-Colonel BUTLER HAMILTON:—

"There can be no doubt whatever of the great want of Trained Nurses in India, especially for the civil population living 'up country'; but the question of supplying this want is not at all so easy as your correspondent seems to fancy. I may say that, for the past twenty-seven years, I have spent the greater part of my service in India, and long felt the want of a Trained Nursing Staff in our Military Hospitals. This feeling was intensified on joining my last appointment—the charge of the Station Hospital at Lucknow in the spring of 1886, as, shortly after I took over the duties, I had no fewer than fifty-seven cases of typhoid fever under treatment at one time, to say nothing of the numerous other bad cases of illness—such as abscess of the

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