

Nursing Echoes.

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THE Meeting of the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, last Friday, was, I believe, one of the most deeply interesting gatherings which has been held in connection with that very successful body. I speak with some knowledge because I have had the honour of representing this Journal at some meetings which will undoubtedly be historical in the annals of the Association. The inaugural meeting at St. George's Hall was impressive—the first *Conversazione* was a splendid success—the two Mansion House Meetings were in many ways of deep importance. The Council Meeting in January, 1890, when the first copy of the first Register was presented to Princess CHRISTIAN, and the *Conversazione* last December, when Her Royal Highness presented the badges of the Association to some four hundred members, both possessed features of the highest significance. But to my mind the ceremony of last week will, in the future, be held to mark out the Council Meeting of October, 1892, as standing apart from all its predecessors.

BUT I must retrace my steps and tell my story in due order. The large Hall of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society, in which the Association and many other medical and scientific societies are wont to hold their meetings, was crowded by a most representative gathering of Doctors, Mâtrons and Nurses when, with Royal punctuality—as the clock struck five—Princess CHRISTIAN, attended by Miss LOCH, and accompanied by Sir WILLIAM SAVORY, Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH, Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK, and Dr. BEZLY THORNE, entered the hall and took her seat upon the dais, requesting Sir WILLIAM SAVORY to take the Chair on her behalf. The Princess wore a black silk gown, edged with jet, with a scarlet vest, and a scarlet velvet bonnet, with jet ornaments, and showed her usual keen interest in all the proceedings.

Dr. BEZLY THORNE read the formal Reports from the Executive Committee. These dealt with the Volunteer Nursing scheme for Cholera; the election of Mr. DAVIES-COLLEY and Mr. PICK as vice-presidents, of Sir JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, Mr. PICK and Miss THOROLD as vice-chairmen of the Executive Committee and General Council, of

Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK and Dr. BEZLY THORNE as treasurer and hon. secretary respectively, and of the members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year; the recommendation that the Executive Committee should be empowered to confer the gold badge of the Association upon Royal and Princely personages who became vice-presidents, and a special silver badge upon members of the Association who might be considered worthy of such a distinction. If this were agreed to, the Executive Committee considered that such a badge should be bestowed upon Miss KATE MARSDEN in recognition of her work on behalf of Siberian Lepers. The Committee recommended also that Miss CATHERINE J. WOOD should be elected a life member of the General Council and of the Executive Committee. The adoption of the Report was proposed by Dr. BEZLY THORNE and seconded by Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH, together with a special vote of thanks to the retiring members of the Executive Committee, which was coupled with the names of Dr. SCHOFIELD and Miss COOPER, who have been members of that body from its institution.

MR. LANKESTER pointed out, as a matter of order, that no new appointment to the General Council or Executive Committee could be made, except by an alteration of the Bye-laws for that purpose, and that this alteration could only be made by a resolution proposed, seconded, and carried at the annual meeting of members. He thought no one would question the advantage of having Miss WOOD as a life member of the Executive Committee, but the Association must act in conformity with its Bye-laws.

Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK, while agreeing that Mr. LANKESTER was quite correct on the point of order, thought that the Report might be adopted with a note that the point of order had been raised, and must be acted upon hereafter.

SIR WILLIAM SAVORY thought that this would be the best, and thanked Mr. LANKESTER for calling attention to the point. The Report was then adopted unanimously, and Dr. SCHOFIELD briefly replied to the vote of thanks to the retiring members.

Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK then said that he was commanded by Her Royal Highness to give a brief account of the work done by a member of the Association, Miss KATE MARSDEN, on behalf of the lepers in Asiatic Russia. The main details which he gave are familiar to our readers, having been drawn evidently from the same sources—the official Russian records. But Dr. FENWICK, while laying very little stress upon the grave dangers which Miss

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