

Nursing Echoes.

* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



HER Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN left England for Germany on Monday, where she is to spend her well-earned holiday. Hardly a day has passed during the whole season in which it has not been recorded that she has performed some public benefit. Knowing, as they do, how much of her valuable time is spent in devotion to their welfare, we feel that Nurses all over the

Empire will join us in wishing her a most pleasant health-giving rest, and a safe return to old England.

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PRINCESS BEATRICE paid a visit to Southampton on Monday last, crossing from Cowes in the Royal yacht Alberta, with Miss MINNIE COCHRANE and Lord WILLIAM CECIL in attendance. On arrival at the pier at Southampton, Her Royal Highness was received by the Hon. Mrs. Elliot Yorke, the Mayor and Sheriff of Southampton, Surgeon General Maclean, and the Deputy Chairman of the Harbour Board. The party at once drove to the Jubilee Nurses' Home, the route being beautifully decorated and lined with people, who cheered heartily. At the Nurses' Institute, the Princess made a critical examination of the accommodation afforded, and expressed, through the Mayor, her hearty sympathy with the work, in which, she added, Her Majesty took a great personal interest. The Princess then proceeded to the head-quarters of the Gordon Boys' Brigade, where musical drill was gone through. Mrs. MOFFATT, a sister of General Gordon, presented her with a handsome bouquet and a beautifully bound copy of the last report of the Brigade, which showed that it is in a highly flourishing condition, the boys earning on an average ten shillings weekly. From thence, the Princess proceeded to the Philharmonic Hall, where there was a presentation by young girls of purses, each containing not less than three guineas, for the Nurses' Institute. Her Royal Highness subsequently returned to Osborne.

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WE would draw the special attention of our readers to the valuable contribution by a medical man, one who has devoted much time and kindly thought to the welfare of Nurses, and which will be found in the column to which it refers—Matrons in Council—because it affords a valuable indication of the man-

ner in which leaders in the medical profession regard the present movement.

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THE first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Matron's Council was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Thursday, the 26th July, Miss ISLA STEWART in the Chair. After due consideration, the proposed work for the Autumn Session was drawn up, of which due notice will be given in a later issue, with a list of members. Many of our leading Matrons have already joined the Council, and we feel sure that the spirit of kindness and sympathy which characterised Miss STEWART'S opening address will speedily permeate through the Nursing ranks, much to the benefit of all concerned.

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From some letters received it would appear that some Matrons have gathered the erroneous impression that Associates are to assume the responsibilities of membership. This, we feel sure, was not Miss STEWART'S intention; it would perhaps be helpful, therefore, if the privileges of each class were distinctly understood.

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It is proposed that membership of the Council should be open only to past and present Matrons of Hospitals and Infirmarys, and Superintendents of Trained Nurses' Institutions who are thoroughly trained Nurses. *Members* are eligible for the positions of Chairman or Vice-Chairmen, to seats on the Executive and Advisory Committees, and to attendance at Conferences, and school of method. *Associates*, who must be Nurses of upwards of three years' experience, holding the position of Sister, Night Superintendent, or Charge Nurse, have the *entrée* only to *public* conferences, at which they may read papers and debate, and attend the classes designed to impart a knowledge of public business.

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The Matrons' Council has been initiated by a liberal-minded woman, otherwise we may be sure it would not have been started at all; and, we feel sure, to frame it on narrow lines would limit its future usefulness. If its foundation is too liberal for some of us, we must grow up to it. Nursing matters are in a keenly progressive condition, and we do not want to form a society which would place a clog on the wheel of progress.

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WE have received the following letter from the Matron of a leading Special Hospital:—"I regret much that I was unable to accept Miss ISLA STEWART'S courteous invitation to be present on the 13th inst., but from the report in the RECORD I am pleased to observe that Matrons of all Hospitals are eligible for membership. This liberal

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