

RUMOUR has it that expressions of disapprobation have been expressed by members of the Chartered Nurses' Society, at the manner in which the late Assistant Secretary left their Society. It would be interesting to know whether Miss Etta Jackson, the Secretary, or the Committee were responsible for this lady's resignation.

It is an indefensible system to place one paid servant of a public institution absolutely under the control of another—especially in a so-called Nurses' Co-operation—organized on the lines of the Chartered Nurses' Society, where the members themselves are excluded from any representation on the Committee of Management, and where the Committee is composed largely of the medical men who have the power to remove a nurse's name from the Register, and thus ruin her professionally. Personally, we have no sympathy for working women who place themselves in a position devoid at once of dignity and independence, and if they are powerless to protect themselves, we presume they are also powerless to protect their officials.

A MAN named Edward Robert Brooks, has been arrested on the charge, amongst others, of having stolen the box and goods of Miss Rose Trusler, a nurse belonging to the Nurses' Co-operation, Weymouth Street, as well as of borrowing money from her. It will be remembered that a short time ago we gave an account of this cowardly and dastardly robbery. Should it prove that the man now charged with the crime is the thief who has been wanted, we hope that he will receive the heaviest sentence of which the law admits, as the circumstances of the robberies from nurses were peculiarly atrocious.

THE Countess of Aberdeen lately addressed a very large assembly, at Tremont Temple, Boston, U.S.A., on the subject of the Victorian Order of Nurses throughout Canada, which it is desired to found, in remembrance of the Queen's Jubilee. A great deal of interest is being taken in the movement, and considerable sums have already been promised. All the provinces of the Dominion will be represented, namely, Quebec and Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, Manitoba and British Columbia, and Nova Scotia, and it is hoped that the Canadians of Boston and Massachusetts will come forward and help with the onethousand dollars, mentioned as the cost of the first of the cottage hospitals and convalescent homes. The Countess spoke most effectively and pleadingly, and was listened to with the greatest attention. She alluded feelingly to the good influence of the Queen, to the Christian desire to help the sick and suffering, and concluded with, "Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Prince of Wales has most kindly sent many gifts of game to the London hospitals during the past week.

Columns have appeared in the *Times* during the past fortnight from the pens of Mr. C. S. Loch, the well-known and universally respected Secretary of the Charity Organization Society, and Sir Henry Burdett, purporting to be on the question of hospital reform. They deal, however, largely with the burning subject of a Central Hospital Board for the Metropolis, and on the part of Sir Henry Burdett, of course, degenerate as usual into a personal attack: in Mr. Loch's own words, he writes:—"Sir Henry Burdett's letter is a good illustration of the mind and methods of Sir Henry Burdett. I fear I cannot assume the friendship he imposes on me and of which he allows himself to make such personal use. It is a pity, I think, that the discussion of a public question should be converted to a merely personal attack. Would it not be better to discuss the question on its merits instead of on the merits of one of the disputants?"

In the meantime, it is interesting to note that the gentlemen responsible for the management of the large general hospitals of London have done wisely in forming themselves into a Central Hospital Council for London. According to the *Lancet*, "The desirability of the existence of some body which should connect all the hospitals of London has long been recognized by all who have considered the subject of hospital administration. In the early part of the year the Charity Organization Society suggested the formation of a Central Hospital Board for London, and a committee was formed, consisting of one hundred and sixty-eight members interested in hospital work, but it was felt that in such a matter as this the hospitals were chiefly concerned, and that it was very desirable that such a board should consist of representatives from the various hospitals. A meeting was accordingly held at Westminster Hospital of representatives from all the London hospitals to which medical schools are attached, and a committee was appointed to draw up provisional rules for the "Central Hospital Council for London." Each hospital was requested to nominate three representatives, one of whom must be a member of the managing body of the hospital, and one a member of the medical staff; and as there are in London twelve hospitals with medical schools, the new council consists of thirty-six members. The first meeting was held on November 16th, at St. Thomas's Hospital, and the constitution and rules of the council were arranged. The following are the representatives already appointed:—St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Mr. Alfred Willett, F.R.C.S.Eng., and Mr. W. H. Cross; St. Thomas's Hospital, Mr. J. G. Wainwright and Mr. Henry Hugh Clutton, F.R.C.S.Eng.; Guy's Hospital, Mr. Alfred Cohen, and Mr. A. J. Lawrence, C.I.E.; Charing Cross Hospital,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)