

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W



MISS SIDNEY BROWNE, of the Army Nursing Service, until recently the Superintendent of Nurses at the Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, has been appointed Superintendent of Nurses at Aldershot. It is a matter of regret to Miss Browne's many friends in town that she has left London, but they will, we are sure, unite with us in wishing her every happiness in her new work. The Sisters at Aldershot are to be congratulated on the appointment of a Superintendent so universally respected and popular as Miss Browne, and one who has uniformly upheld the best traditions of the nursing profession.

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 THE testimony to the value of the services of nurses in the tropics seems to be uniform. Speaking recently on the work of the Colonial Nursing Association, Mr. Chamberlain said that the Colonial Office was thoroughly satisfied with the experiment which had been tried, and added: "Almost every day we receive testimonials in favour of the nurses who have been sent out bearing on the importance and value of their work. You will see the field for the operations of such an association is a very large one. The harvest is white, and in this case the labourers are many, for it is, I think, a testimony to the courage and devotion of British women that we find any number of them are willing, and even eager, to take posts, even in the climates reputed to be most unhealthy, and that the applications for such positions are as numerous as those for countries more favourably situated." These words will be appreciated by British nurses whose services to the sick in these days are in some danger of being depreciated and belittled.

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 THE *Christian Globe* says: "The difficulty experienced by the Metropolitan Asylums Board in obtaining trained nurses for its hospitals is a singular commentary upon the allegation that the nursing profession is overcrowded. The situation is the more remarkable since it is known that the Board pays its nurses well and treats them considerately. The explanation given is that there are plenty of good berths open for really

competent nurses, but that the lower ranks of the profession are swollen by young women whose title to engage in hospital work is not based upon knowledge, or even a desire to learn. The attractions of a smart uniform and the Royal favour which helps to invest the class with the special sympathies of the public, are the reasons why many girls who are not qualified to become nurses enter into competition with earnest workers who would make their duties of tending the sick a labour of love. The impression widely prevails, moreover, that the nursing profession is a royal road to matrimony. That the cap and apron are not always the badge of competency is clearly proved by the number of candidates who fail to reach the standard of proficiency required by the Metropolitan Asylums Board. The profession, in fact, requires 'levelling up.'"

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 THE District Nursing Association working amongst the sick in Haggerston, Hoxton, Bethnal Green and Hackney is in urgent need of increased accommodation for its staff. Ten years ago there was only one nurse, now there are nine, while the Home only provides accommodation for seven. £600 is required to provide the extra accommodation, of which only £120 is in hand; and the Treasurer, Miss Sparkes, 80, Nichols Square, Hackney Road, will gratefully receive contributions for this purpose. An appeal on behalf of the Association has been issued by Lady Frederic Cavendish, Lady Florence Cecil, Lady Battersea, and Mrs. Robert Francs, which we hope may meet with a liberal response. Last year the nurses of the Association visited more than seven thousand patients, and paid over thirty thousand visits.

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 THE Holborn Guardians have decided to acquire, if necessary, by compulsory purchase, five houses abutting on the south side of their Infirmary at Highgate, with the view of building a Nurses' Home on the site, provided that the sanction of the Local Government Board can be obtained.

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 ST. OLAVE'S Board of Guardians have had a timely reminder from the Local Government Board, which forwarded to them a report by one of their lady inspectors upon a visit to the Rotherhithe Infirmary. The inspector stated that the sleeping accommodation provided for the nurses was insufficient, and that she found eight nurses occupying one dormitory, not even separated by curtains. Some of the nurses were trying to rest during the dinner hour, but there was neither quiet nor privacy. The clerk was instructed to reply informing the Local Government Board that the Guardians had the

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