

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\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



The annual meeting of the Hamilton Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute of Nurses was held recently in the County Hall, Hamilton. Mrs. Robin, convener of the executive committee, in presenting the twelfth annual report, at the outset expressed sorrow at the great loss that had been sustained by the death of the esteemed senior nurse, Miss Mary Florence Wade, who died on August 25th after a short illness. Nurse Hardisty had been appointed to the vacancy, and in consideration of the increasing work and the need for a fourth nurse becoming evident, the district had been rearranged, and Nurse Clark had been added to the staff. The committee regretted the retirement of Nurse White. A temporary successor had been appointed, and Nurse Carr was to succeed her in January. It was most gratifying to be able to report, with all these changes, that progress had been made since the first Jubilee nurse began work in Hamilton. In 1893 they had only one nurse, and during that year she attended 124 cases, while during the past year their three nurses had had 592 cases to attend, and in connection with these they made 14,683 visits.

An association has been formed in Breslau called the "Association for Training Catholic Women as Nurses on Secular Lines." It begins its work early in January, having rented a home for its pupils and made arrangements for them to receive training in different hospitals. The home contains, beside sleeping rooms and dining-room, quarters for a Matron, sitting-room, and a study or class-room. The applicants will be required to show a rather higher than average education, and those who have previously been in domestic service, or have been attendants on the sick, will not be received. The pupils must be young Catholic women of high character, and beside the professional training, they will be taught and fortified on the spiritual side, as is most necessary in work of such character. The training is regarded as complete in one year, but they will be required to pledge themselves for three years' subsequent service. The training year is to have a preparatory course of two months, during which time the pupils remain in the home and are occupied with medical lectures, class work, cooking,

and housewifery in relation to the sick. After the second month they are placed in hospitals, but not until the eleventh month on night duty. In the twelfth month theoretical work is reviewed, and an examination follows. At the end of the three years' contract they are free to leave, if they so choose, but those remaining will be paid a salary; sick pension after ten years' service, if invalided, or old-age pension at the sixtieth year of age.

The new wing of the Victoria Nurses' Institute, Cape Town, adds greatly to the usefulness of the building. In the winter of 1903, owing to the heavy rains, part of the Institute buildings fell to the ground, and the Committee were faced with the necessity for raising £2,000 to repair the damage, which with praiseworthy energy they did. The Institute now contains twenty-six bedrooms, in addition to large reception rooms and public offices. Its objects are twofold—(a) To provide a centre from which the wants of the public can be speedily and efficiently supplied; and (b) to furnish a home to properly-trained nurses at a much smaller cost than they can obtain in any other way—both very laudable objects, which, we have no doubt, commend themselves alike to the public and the nurses of Cape Town.

A suit for 5,000 dol. damages has been entered against the Concord, N.H., Memorial Hospital and Dr. Wallace Russell, the attending physician of the institution, by Mrs. M. Hewitt, formerly a nurse at the hospital. The suit alleges that the plaintiff was placed in charge of a patient ill with diphtheria, without being informed of the nature of the contagion, that she contracted the disease as a consequence, and was seriously ill.

A writer in *Blackwood's* this month gives an interesting account of the Scottish Hospital in Damascus. The Victoria Hospital has accommodation at present for about sixty beds, and the wards are clean and bright as judged by an English eye, while they appear the luxuries of dreamland in the eyes of Arabs, who herd in hovels, which in moderate language may be described as foul, fetid, and fearsome in squalor. So much thus far, for inside outline, and why should I not at once give the names of the Scottish heroes and heroines, who are neither medalled nor C.B.'d, nor mentioned in despatches, albeit a "D.S.O." for distinguished service in alleviating sorrow and suffering could never be more appropriately awarded. Miss Graham, Miss Moore, and Miss Mann are Scottish young ladies—a trifle too young, perhaps, but they will mend of that every year—exceedingly well-informed in general subjects, like most of their nation, thoroughly trained at Edinburgh in their special avocation, skilful in every perception, tender in every movement, and

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