

## NURSING ECHOES.

\*\* Communications (duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith) are specially invited for these columns.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN'S letter to the *Times* has excited a great deal of public interest, and, I hope, will be the means of bringing much pecuniary support to the British Nurses' Association. It is but one more piece of evidence of the great interest "Our Princess" takes in Nursing matters in general, and the Nurses' Association in particular. In reference to the latter, I am told by members of the Executive Committee of that Association, that Her Royal Highness is never absent from a single meeting, and that her knowledge of business, and shrewd advice when any difficult point arises, enables a large amount of work to be done in a short time; a most important fact, I should imagine, seeing how many overworked medical men are members of the Committee. Mr. Editor informs me that he intends to reprint the Princess's letter in full this week, so I need not say more on the subject at present.

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It is reported that Princess Christian has given one more proof of her devotion to good works, especially in connection with hospitals, by consenting to become President of the newly-formed Cyprus Society, whose object is the advancement of hospital and educational work in Cyprus. Its first aim is to establish a hospital at Kyrenia, where there has hitherto been nothing of the kind. Afterwards, it is hoped, this will become mainly a convalescent hospital. Kyrenia is situated on the north coast, in one of the most beautiful and most healthy parts of the island. A site has been given, and, in accordance with the wish of the donors, the new institution will be called the "Gordon Home" in memory of the late hero, General Gordon. The hospital will be built on the lines and about the size of an English cottage hospital. After it has been opened the Society proposes, I hear, to utilise it in the training of native women as Nurses. So Nursing is to be a new power in civilising Cyprus.

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TALKING of the Association, however, I must congratulate it on the grand meeting recently held at Birmingham. I have just read the discussion, which appears in our columns this week, and which is deeply interesting, as showing the opinions of Nurses and medical men in such a large and influential centre of progressive thought as the great capital of the Midlands. Gentlemen who compile pamphlets giving the views of the authorities of nineteen Nurse-training schools, or their own individual ideas as to whether Registration is good for Nurses, should mark, learn, and digest these openly expressed opinions of those best qualified to speak

upon the subject, and then, in the dictatorial language of our comic contemporary, perhaps they will "consider and be silent." I hear that the members joining the Association are increasing by leaps and bounds, and that from all parts of the Kingdom the provincial hospitals are petitioning the Executive Committee to send a deputation to explain *viva voce* its aims and objects.

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THE article upon the Guild of St. Barnabas, by Miss Wood, which appeared in our columns some few weeks ago, has brought several inquiries about the subject. It was instituted to draw Nurses together in one common bond, especially for religious objects, and now has branches all over the kingdom, each of which has its own Chaplain and Lady Superior, and holds its own meetings. In London, Liverpool, Manchester, Worcester, Gloucester, Leamington, Bath, Oxford, Bristol, and Edinburgh, I am told, large and active branches exist and do much good work. The Guild publishes an excellent monthly paper, called *Misericordia*, which can be obtained (price 2d) from Mr. W. Knott, 26, Brookstreet, Holborn, E.C.

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THE June number may be especially commended to the consideration of those who desire to maintain narrow distinctions and cliques among Nurses, for the advice given in it to private Nurses is certainly true and valuable. It concludes thus: "Lastly, I would say that, much as I admire *esprit de corps* at all times, and, no doubt, it is as valuable in Nursing as in everything else, it seems to be carried a little to excess occasionally in the various Nursing schools. Each school, no doubt, has its own special advantages, but why should Nurses say ill-natured things of one another, and leave us wondering occasionally whether every Nurse thinks that all others know nothing, unless trained at the same hospital as herself? The bond of a common vocation is so strong, cannot it triumph over the differences of school?"

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I WONDER if any of my readers see the excellent quarterly letter written to the *Mary Adelaide Nurses*. I have had a copy of the June letter sent to me, and it is extremely well written and interesting, though I do not agree with all the writer, Miss J. Wilson, says. She first points out the difficulties in the way of women combining together for any purpose, and then discusses the National Pension Fund. As, however, she is evidently unaware of the serious objections which exist to that scheme in its present shape, I cannot coincide with her recommendation to Nurses to endeavour to join it. Next, however, she gives the following account of the British Nurses' Association, which is so well expressed that I will quote it fully.

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