

work beneath you; nothing is "menial," nothing trivial to the earnest worker. Do not be of the number of those who shirk their duties, "whose whole achievement is to leave undone," but rather

"Choose the active and the true,  
Rich with the freight of independent thought;  
Right gladly done the work you find to do;  
Each separate gift to ripe perfection brought;  
An earnest woman, of whom all shall say,  
She won success, and bravely was it won."

### NURSING ECHOES.

\* \* \* *Communications (duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith) are specially invited for these columns.*

I AM glad to hear that the Silver Fête for the benefit of that excellent Institution, the Victoria Hospital for Children, was a great financial and social success. A graceful act was performed on behalf of the little patients. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales intended to have been present at the Fête, and it had been arranged that she should be presented with a most beautiful work of art, as a gift from the tiny inmates of the Hospital. It consisted of a splendid cameo likeness of the Prince of Wales, cut from a conch shell, oval in shape, two inches in length, and one inch and a half in width; and was enclosed in a blue velvet case. As, however, the Princess was unable to attend, this was sent to her, together with a book containing the signatures of all the small people who could write, and a mark against the names of those who could not do so, and asking Her Royal Highness to graciously accept their offering.

ALL Nurses who are Members of the British Nurses' Association, will be glad to hear that Mr. Savory, has, for the fourth year in succession, been elected the President of the Royal College of Surgeons, the recognised headship of British Surgery. Hitherto the office has been only tenable for one year, so it is all the more marked an honour to Mr. Savory to have been thus elected again and again. Medical men, I am told, generally admit that no one within living memory has filled the high position with greater dignity and usefulness. Nurses who heard the eloquent oration, pronounced by Mr. Savory, when he took the chair at the great meeting in St. George's Hall last February, the high terms in which he spoke of Nursing, and his generous advocacy of the advancement of Nurses, will rejoice to know that the medical profession has conferred so unusual, though so thoroughly deserved, an honour upon one who came forward at once and willingly to do honour to Nursing, when the opportunity offered.

WHAT a splendid annotation the *Lancet* contained last week on the subject of Princess Christian's letter to the *Times*. The leading medical journal has from the very commencement of the movement, and quite consistently, afforded the Association its invaluable assistance; and its present commendation is therefore only one more claim to the gratitude of Nurses. It is interesting to notice in this connection, how an independent journal like the *Lancet* is able from its very impartiality to reflect the opinion of leading medical men on this as well as other subjects; while at the same time, from its popularity and high standing in public estimation, it is able to reflect lay opinion also. No other professional journal occupies such a pre-eminent and powerful a position, and so the British Nurses' Association may well congratulate itself, upon receiving such strong support from the *Lancet*.

I AM not surprised that the lay press has pronounced so decidedly favourable an opinion upon the aims and objects of the Association, because I am well aware how strongly the tide of public opinion is setting in favour of some legal protection against ignorant "Nurses." Mr. Editor tells me that he means to reprint in these columns the articles upon this subject from the *Times*, the *Globe*, the *Lancet*, and the *Queen*, as the four typical leading journals, so I need not say more at present, except to express, on behalf of Nurses, their gratitude to the well-known and large-minded proprietors of the *Lancet*—the Messrs. Wakley—for this latest evidence of their good-will to the Nursing profession, their keen discrimination of what is for the welfare of the public, and their powerful and consistent support of whatever tends to secure that end.

THERE is a very interesting leading article in last week's *Lancet* upon the benefit derived from "Homes of Rest," especially in so far as they are made into convalescent homes for that large class of patients who are chiefly suffering from over-work and over-worry. It wisely insists that as much as possible such Homes should be made self-supporting, by enforcing some payment from the inmates, because as all Nurses know, the acceptance of charity, in one respect, has a direful tendency to increase the desire to receive it in another way. Most Nurses can remember patients who at first objected from scruples of pride and independence to enter a hospital, but who, after they had been in the wards for a short time, showed a disposition to ask for charitable help in many other shapes.

WITH reference to this subject, however, I am glad to hear that one of the first objects of the British Nurses' Association is to form such a "House of Rest" under the name of a "Holiday House" for its members. If there is one thing more than

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)