

THE Nursing Association, initiated by the Marchioness of LONDONDERRY at Seaham Harbour, and generously supported by her husband and herself, is going on very successfully. After a month's probation, Nurse Hicks has been engaged for a year. During her term of probation this lady visited 68 cases of sickness, thus giving proof of the inestimable benefit derivable from such a system of nursing. Mr. J. J. CANDLISH has been unanimously elected as chairman of the executive council for the ensuing twelve months, and Mr. JAMES WELSH and Mr. JOHN HUNTER, both workmen, have been elected as representatives on the executive council of the miners employed at New Seaham Colliery, who live at Seaham Harbour. Arrangements have been made for each lady member of the executive council to take a week's duty in turn. Presents of food and articles of clothing are solicited, and an opportunity is being given to all classes to contribute their support, be it large or small, by a house to house canvass. This beneficent scheme, established with such tender solicitude for the sick and suffering by Lady LONDONDERRY, bids fair to become of the utmost service to the working population of the town. The Nursing Association at New Seaham is also in active operation, and a lady nurse is now on a month's probation. The miners are determined that the Association shall not lack means of support so long as its objects are faithfully carried out.

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THE *Hobart Mercury* gives an interesting account of the Amateur Nursing Band, initiated by Lady HAMILTON. At a late meeting of its members, a letter was read from Lady HAMILTON setting forth, with a view to publication, further details of the aim and object of the band. She says:—"It was only established in March, 1892, although the idea had been put forth by me in a public speech six years ago. Hobart, from time to time, has gone through various grave periods of epidemic when the want of trained Nurses has been severely felt; but this want the Amateur Nursing Band does not and cannot attempt to supply. The sole object of the band is to nurse slight cases of sickness in the homes of the people to prevent the over-crowding of the Hospital, and to save the 'Haus Mutter' from becoming a confirmed invalid from want of knowledge, or, it may be, from want of care. The mother's presence in the family can ill be spared, and though she may be laid up at home, still her very presence bears an influence upon the household economy. The band endeavours to attend to cases of accidents, such as burns, scalds, bruises, and cuts, that require perhaps a daily dressing by a

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careful hand, and are thus prevented from becoming serious. The member attending a case endeavours to give simple information to the household by that most telling lesson of 'example,' which is so effective when it accompanies 'precept.' Naturally, a band of this kind requires public support, and as the subscription is only 1s. a year, it brings it within the reach of almost all classes of the community. This shilling a year membership gives the privilege of attending the Nursing Band lectures, which takes place during the winter session, and which this season has numbered five. Practical bandaging is worked at after each lecture, and by inducing the members to ask questions, and getting written answers to them from reliable authority, it is hoped much valuable information may be gained."

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THIS seems to me a very excellent scheme which might be instituted amongst the district visitors of our great towns. For instance, how much suffering might have been alleviated during the late epidemic of small-pox at Warrington and its neighbourhood—when the Hospitals were crowded to overflowing—had an Amateur Nursing Band been in working order.

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AT the Annual Meeting of the Governors of the Wrexham Infirmary, I regret to find that it was suggested to institute a system of Nurse-sweating in order to increase the funds of the institution. I quote from the *Wrexham Advertiser*:—"The committee are pleased to record the success of the 'Nursing Institute' in connection with the Infirmary. It was formed at the close of 1891, for the purpose of providing trained Nurses to attend patients in Wrexham and neighbourhood. The two Nurses engaged during the past year attended forty cases, and the receipts from fees amounted to £75 17s. The expenses were £56 1s. 10d., leaving a balance of £19 15s. 2d. Mr. J. R. BURTON very kindly gave £25 towards the establishment of the institute, so there is now a balance of £44 16s. 2d. in hand. The honorary surgeons consider that there is sufficient private practice for four or five Nurses, but the sleeping accommodation at the Infirmary is barely sufficient for those at present engaged. The committee have had under consideration a plan for adding to the dispensary building, and thereby providing the additional accommodation required, and they recommend the adoption of this proposal, which, if carried out, will not only enable them to provide the increased nursing staff so much needed in the district, but will result in a substantial annual increase in the funds of the institution."

S. G.

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