

**Nursing Echoes.**

\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*



THE Duchess of ALBANY is making a great effort to benefit the North-Eastern Hospital for Children at Hackney during the coming season by means of drawing room entertainments. Her Royal Highness and Princess VICTOR of Hohenlohe, on Thursday, opened the first meeting of the series at the residence of Lord and Lady FITZROY, at 17, Carlton House Terrace.

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THE Bishop of SOUTHWELL is promoting among Church people in Derbyshire the establishment of a County Association for providing trained Nurses for villages and towns. The Duchess of DEVONSHIRE has consented to act as President of the Association, and Mrs. HURST, of Alderneasley, has been appointed the working Vice-President. Miss ARKWRIGHT, of Wicksworth, will act as Hon. Secretary.

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WE have received, in our capacity of Managing Directress of Gordon House Home Hospital, the following document concerning two certificated Nurses, one of whom has been in our employment for four years :—

HOSPITAL.

DEAR MADAM,—The Committee of Management, being desirous of continuing their interest in the work and welfare of Nurses who have received their training in this Hospital, will feel obliged if you will kindly fill in this form. Your confidential opinion as to efficiency and conduct will be deemed a favour.—Yours faithfully,

*Superintendent of the Nursing Staff.*

Document to be filled in :—

Date of Appointment.	Position.	Date.	Nature of Promotion if any.
Date of Departure.	Cause of Departure.	Remarks as to Efficiency and Conduct.	

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To which communication we returned the following reply :—

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of confidential inquiry papers from your Committee concerning two of my Nursing Staff, Nurses — and —, and having consulted these two ladies with regard to their wishes in relation to the papers, I am commissioned by them to state that they must respectfully decline to subject themselves to private inquiries, or hold themselves responsible to a Committee who can claim no authority over their conduct and professional work ; they profess themselves, at the same time,

sincerely grateful for the kindness and consideration which they enjoyed during their term of training at \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital. The fact that the Nurses in question had not been consulted by your Committee before this attempted system of supervision concerning them was enforced, is, to my mind, one of very grave significance. As a professional Nurse, inspired with the deepest respect for my work ; and, as a woman, claiming—as all true women to-day are claiming—*true liberty of living*—the result of responsibility for their own actions, and which freedom will alone make Nurses what a woman should be, *a self-respecting, conscientious, and reliable human being*, I deeply regret this action on the part of a Committee who, in attempting to assume authority which they do not possess, are striking at the root of the liberty of the subject.—I am, Madam, Yours faithfully,

ETHEL G. FENWICK.

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WE would only remark here, as we comment on this matter in another column, that an attempt on the part of the Committee of any Hospital to take an interest and to encourage social relations between the Alma Mater and its certificated pupils, has our warmest sympathy ; but an assumption of *responsibility* upon the part of such a committee for the conduct of certificated Nurses in the employment of other institutions is an attempt to exercise a function which they do not legally possess.

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THIS year the Royal Infirmary of Glasgow attains its centenary, and in honour of the occasion the LORD PROVOST and Mrs. BELL gave a conversation and dance in the Municipal Buildings, on the 5th inst., to the doctors, nurses, and students connected with the two score medical institutions in the city. Some 1,500 guests attended. Among other prominent citizens present were Lord Kelvin, Sir Donald Matheson, Mr. Hugh Brown, Chairman of the Royal Infirmary ; Preceptor Dickson, Chairman of the Western Infirmary ; Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P. ; Professor Simpson, Professor M'Ewan, Professor Story, the Rev. Dr. Donald MacLeod, Lord Dean of Guild Reid, Deacon Convener M'Lennan, and a large representation of Magistrates and Town Councillors. The Nurses were attired in their hospital uniforms, which, if mostly of the lighter shade, had still sufficient variety. The lilac and white striped dress, with cotton apron and white lawn cap, denoted the Royal Infirmary Nurse ; the plain blue dress a sister of the Western Infirmary ; the blue striped dress a Nurse of the same Institution ; and the blue check with white linen apron, collar, and cuffs, a Probationer ; while the Sisters connected with the Victoria Infirmary could be distinguished by their blue and white check uniform, and the Probationers by the pink and white stripes. An outstanding costume was the navy blue Galatea dress of the Sisters of the Sick Children's Hospital. The reception began at seven o'clock, and for an hour and a half the guests had an opportunity of promenading through the beautiful salons and corridor. Then for half-an-hour the company

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