

Our Scotch Letter.

NURSING affairs in the North go on quietly enough, but they are none the less a good deal affected by the progress in the South, and there are distinct signs of 'backing up' all along the line. I hear the Royal Infirmary has been increasing its staff of late, in a very necessary direction, by giving extra Night Nurses in the medical wards, when there have been many bad cases. The plan of training there is to put a Probationer, at the end of her first twelve months, for a whole year on night duty.

One significant fact in the present history of the case of the sick, north of the Tweed, is the number of provincial towns which are building small Hospitals. Till a few years ago, all serious cases were sent to the Infirmarys of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, or Dundee, often from long distances in the country. The Hospitals of these cities were able to increase their revenues by collecting subscriptions from the provinces. How far that source of income will be affected by the increased number of Cottage Hospitals remains to be seen. Some of these new buildings are excellent, and I hope to give a description of one or two of them to the readers of the NURSING RECORD, at no very distant date.

The Q. V. J. Nurses are leavening the land with most valuable knowledge of what the care of the sick really means. Wherever one Nurse has been established, to struggle for a time against overwhelming odds of work, it is quite certain that a second, and a third, perhaps, will in time be sent for. In Edinburgh, during March, 5,541 visits were paid, and they had 250 cases on their books on the 31st., as against 223 on the 1st March.

With the advent of an up-to-date trained Nurse-Matron at Chalmer's Hospital, various changes were introduced. Probationers are now received for training. As it is a Hospital of 40 beds, with private wards for paying patients, many excellent cases, and, I think, no medical students, the opportunities for training Nurses intended for private nursing must be exceptionally good. The present Matron is an M. R. B. N. A.

Another Edinburgh Hospital where excellent teaching is to be had is the Fever Hospital, where a fully-trained lady has been Superintendent for a year past. The building is that of the old Infirmary, and, though it looks dull and old-fashioned, is wonderfully well-arranged and adapted to its present use.

The Children's Hospital is still out in the country in the house to which it was removed when an outbreak of typhoid made it, at length, unavoidable to condemn the old building which had long been unhealthy, and where typhoid had proved fatal to more than one Probationer. I hear the new Children's Hospital is to be all that can be desired.

In Private Nursing the effect of the London Co-operation has even been felt in this most conservative city, and the condition of Private Nurses is modified thereby. The authorities in the "Homes" are quietly working up their staff, and sending out more thoroughly trained women.

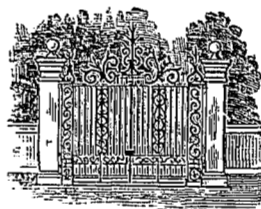
I hear that in Glasgow Children's Hospital there are new wards to be opened soon, but that I must leave to S. Mungo to tell you of later on, with other Glasgow gossip.

" CALEDONIA."

Edinburgh, April, 1894.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



THE Queen is to open the Manchester Ship Canal during the last week in June, when on her way South from Balmoral to Windsor. The function will take place either on Tuesday, the 26th, or on Wednesday, the 27th. No definite arrangements will or can be made until after the Queen has returned from the Continent, but we hear that her Majesty is to proceed along the Canal for some miles in a State barge or launch. It is probable that the Queen will be the guest either of the Duke and Duchess of Westminster at Eaton Hall, or of Lord Egerton at Tatton Park.

The Princess of Wales has written to Sir George Meason, the chairman of the committee of the Home for Lost and Starving Dogs, expressing her willingness to become both a patron and a subscriber to the institution. At the annual meeting held at the rooms of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, it was stated that whereas the number of dogs brought into the Home during the year had increased by 678, the receipts for the same period had fallen off by the sum of £200.

The Countess Feodore Gleichen has modelled a statue of the Queen, to be sculptured in marble for the Jubilee Hospital at Montreal, Canada. Her Majesty is wearing a cap veil and the Garter insignia, and is sitting in a State chair, the back of which is draped with the Royal Coronation robe. The Queen's right hand rests upon a child standing near her side, and an infant is sitting at her feet. The statue is to be placed in the entrance hall of the building.

Her Royal Highness Princess Christian has graciously consented to open the Children's Salon "At Home" on Saturday afternoon, the 21st inst., at the Westminster Town Hall, with a view to adding to the funds for the endowment of another cot for sick children in the North-West London Hospital, Kentish Town, of which her Royal Highness is President. Princess Henry of Battenberg and Princess Louise have also given their patronage to the "At Home." The fancy dress ball in connection with the Salon has been fixed for Tuesday, the 24th inst.

The Queen-Regent of Spain on Holy Thursday, accompanied by the Nuncio and her ladies-in-waiting, performed the ceremony of washing the feet of twelve poor women, and afterwards helping them and twelve poor blind men to dinner. The Queen entered the Salle de Colonnes at two o'clock. Her Majesty was dressed full Court dress and train, with a crown of diamonds, which held her white lace mantilla on her head. Her black velvet Court train was borne by a page. All the ladies-in-waiting were in Court dress, high neck, and Court trains, and all wore diamond coronets. The Infanta Isabel was in a tribune, and on each side of Her Royal Highness there were tribunes, one for the corps diplomatic, and one for the Ministers of State.

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