

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*



THE following gracious letter has been sent by Her Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN as President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, to the Treasurers or Chairmen of the Executive Committees of the twelve Metropolitan Hospitals to which Medical and Nursing Schools are attached, and we have little doubt that, from the majority, Her Royal Highness will receive the assistance which this beneficent scheme deserves, and which will, we feel sure, commend itself to the nation at large.

CUMBERLAND LODGE,  
WINDSOR GREAT PARK,  
WINDSOR, April 30th, 1894.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to inform you that it has been decided by the Royal British Nurses' Association to organise a reserve of Nurses for Army service, with a view to placing it at the disposal of the Authorities in the event of war. The project is one in which I take a personal interest, and I venture to invite your co-operation in giving effect to it.

It is proposed to enrol a limited number of Nurses, actually engaged in the performance of their duties at each of the Metropolitan Hospitals to which Schools of Nursing are attached, who may have been trained or actively engaged in the wards, for three or more years.

They would be prepared to proceed on service, after due notice, and to act in subordination to the Army Sisters when required to do so.

I beg you to do me the favour of informing me, as soon as may be convenient, whether I may rely on the assistance of the Governing body of your Hospital in carrying into execution a measure which could not fail to win the approval of the country and to become a boon to its defenders.

Should your reply be in the affirmative, I will cause you to be informed of the date on which I hope shortly to meet in conference those who may be disposed to afford me the benefit of their influence and counsel.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

*Alfred*

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It is proposed, we understand, at the official opening of the new Offices, to present an illuminated address of thanks to Her Royal Highness the President upon behalf of the Members of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and this important document will be signed by Sir HENRY ACLAND—as Chairman of the Annual Meeting at Oxford, at which the Resolution was proposed by Dr. BEDFORD FENWICK—by Sir DYCE DUCKWORTH,

Sir JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, and Mr. PICKERING PICK. It will also be signed by Miss THOROLD, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK, Miss ISLA STEWART, and Miss LOUISA HOGG.

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Mrs. WALTER SPENCER has consented to act as Nurse Hon. Secretary of the R.B.N.A., preparatory to being recommended for election at the next Meeting of the General Council. This, we feel sure, will be a most popular appointment, as Mrs. SPENCER is a certificated Nurse, having been trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she also held the post of Sister of the Stanley ward for several years until her marriage, gaining for herself the love and respect of all her colleagues.

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The fact of married Nurses coming forward and devoting their spare time and their experience to the organisation of their profession and for the welfare of their sisters is a happy and healthy sign of our times, the significance of which cannot be over-estimated—a sign of the true sympathy of woman for woman, which is becoming day by day more strongly developed, more real, more powerful for good—a sure sign that the old reproach, that women are incapable of co-operation because of their jealousy of some other woman, must no longer be spoken, because it is not true.

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THE delegates to the great American Congresses, last summer, saw some strange sights; but the most unique to British eyes were the HEROINES—real, living, actual heroines—women who in all branches of labour and reform had fought a good fight and won—won the enthusiastic love, respect, and admiration of their fellow-women. Women to whom women were presented and exchanged speech as an honour; whose autograph, picture, fallen flowers, were eagerly sought for and sacredly preserved. It was a very inspiring experience, and who knows, we may yet live to see and know British heroines. Many things will doubtless happen in the coming century.

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THERE are many suggestions in last month's *Trained Nurse* concerning the formation of an American National Badge. Miss CLARA CAHOON shows wisdom when she remarks that the badge should follow, not precede, a uniform standard of instruction and training in the States. Everything there is so new, including scientific Nursing, that no conservative habits, privileges and customs have to be uprooted, as in England, before organization can be begun.

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THE following letter to our contemporary from Miss P. G. SMITH will throw light upon American Nursing thought and progress:—

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)