

Moncur; Paisley Branch—The Rev. Thomas Gentles, D.D. Her Majesty has also been pleased to reappoint the following members:—The Marchioness of Lothian, the Lady Blythwood, Lord Reay, G.C.S.I.; Very Rev. J. Cameron Lees, D.D.; Dr. Donald Macleod, D.D.; Joseph Bell, F.R.C.S.E.; Miss Lumsden, Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen; A. H. F. Barbour, F.R.C.S.E. In January, Her Majesty reappointed Her Royal Highness Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) the President of the Scottish Branch of the Institute for a period of three years. The eight members who represent the subscribers fall to be selected at the Annual Meeting in December.

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THE Sub-Committee deputed to arrange for the Meeting of Matrons to form a Matrons' Council has met several times, with Miss ISLA STEWART in the chair. Invitations will be issued by the 1st of July to attend a Meeting to be held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital on the 13th July, at eight p.m., to consider the scheme, and form the constitution.

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THE first preliminary Examination of candidates for admission as Probationers to St. Bartholomew's Hospital took place on Friday, June the 8th. The examination consisted of a written essay, questions on elementary anatomy and physiology, and a searching medical examination into the health of the candidate. There were upwards of thirty applicants.

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THE Committee of St. Bartholomew's Hospital have again raised the percentage of the Nurses upon the Private Staff. The Nurses now earn a salary of £30 per annum, and 30 per cent. upon their earnings; they are also provided with a home, in and out-door uniform, and medical attendance, so that their condition contrasts favourably even with that of Private Nurses working on the 7½ per cent. system; and as, by this arrangement, the Nurses are saved all anxiety when not at a case, it commends itself to many Nurses in preference to the more independent, but yet more precarious, method of work.

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It was announced at the quarterly meeting of Governors, at the London Hospital, that a preliminary system of education and examination will shortly be inaugurated at that Institution. We are glad to find the authorities of the London at last recognising the fact that they must adopt a more progressive policy in Nursing matters, and do not doubt that before long they will work up to the standard of certification after three years' training in the wards of the Hospital—the qualification for registration by the Royal British Nurses' Association.

At present the majority of applicants trained in this school are ineligible, owing to the fact that they have spent much of the two years promised for training—in private Nursing, and also usually a third year upon the private Nursing staff—a system which compels these Nurses to re-enter a Hospital to fulfil the requirements of the Board, and in consequence to qualify them for membership of the Registered Nurses' Society.

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It is curious how little the average person knows of Hospital life. Of recent years, it has been considered fashionable to visit a ward, and to take an interest in the trained Nurse, her work and her ways. And yet, four out of the five people one meets in ordinary society, have never been inside a Hospital; have heard vaguely of Ambulances; are quite aware in some dim cell of their brains that there *are* out-patient rooms; are quite willing to put their half-crown or their sovereign in the plate on Hospital Sunday; but would find it most difficult to answer an elementary question as to the organisation of a Hospital, and the work it has to do.

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On the evening of June 7th, the LORD MAYOR and LADY MAYORESS kindly gave a *Conversazione* at the Mansion House, to rouse an interest in Hospital Sunday. In showing a number of magic lantern slides, illustrative of Hospital life, it was carefully explained that it was intended that the display should be an object-lesson to the Clergy.

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It would hardly seem necessary, one would have thought, to introduce the working of the Hospitals to the Clergy through the medium of the magic-lantern. It would seem that their every-day duty would surely bring them into sick-wards and Convalescent Homes, and thus they would gain a more practical cognisance of the work than could be communicated through a lime-light impression. But, judging from the expressions of surprise from the "clerics" at the Mansion House, as the various phases of Hospital life were thrown on the screen, it would seem as if to many of the reverend gentlemen, the scenes depicted came as a revelation. A series of types of Nurses was shown, and after these were over, a stily collared clergyman turning to his wife said, "Why, dear me, the Nurses don't look *quite* of the servant class!" This gentleman evidently had not remembered one of his duties, "I was sick and ye visited me," or he would have long since found that the Nurse is as far removed from the servant as is the illiterate "lay brother" from the Bishop.

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THE *Conversazione* was chiefly interesting as a gathering of representative Nurses. We noticed

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