

## Nursing Echoes.

\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*



THE Marchioness of LONDON-DERRY presided last week at the first annual meeting of the Seaham Harbour Nursing Association, which was held in the Literary Institute. She addressed those present, and expressed her pleasure at finding that the Nursing scheme had proved so beneficial to the town, and said that she would always be glad to do all she could for the advancement of the Association, and the spread of the good work it embodied. Before the meeting separated, Lady LONDON-DERRY brought before her hearers the need for classes for cookery, sanitation, and other domestic matters, and offered her aid to establish such in connection with the Durham County Council scheme.

“OUR OWN Impressionist” in *Winter's Weekly* has an amusing article on “The Trained Nurse,” in the ‘Women at Work’ column, in which a Nurse FLINDERBERG paints a very true picture of Nursing in private families—the most responsible and most difficult branch of our profession. Nurse FLINDERBERG also adds:—

“With regard to the qualifications for a Nurse,” “you have to look at it in this way—a Nurse should have a natural aptitude for her work, she should like attending on sick people, she should be calm and equable, possess no temper, should never try to ‘boss’ her patient, but should contrive to get her own way insensibly. She should be light on her feet, and able to get easily up and down from her knees. She should have a steady hand and an equally steady nerve. She should be able to read, if necessary, and be able to write a good hand. She should not attempt any private nursing without at least three years’ hospital experience, and above all things, she should not try to make a private patient feel like a case in a hospital. With regard to the servants, she should never interfere with them, and short of seeing something absolutely dishonest, should carry no tales to the lady of the house. She should be able to obtain for her patient everything that is at all necessary. If beef-tea comes up greasy or tasteless, she should make it clearly understood at once that she means to have beef-tea of the best, and on a pinch she should be able to make it properly herself. She should remember that she is not the doctor, but the attendant; and above all things, she should never make the near relations of her patient feel that they are interlopers in the sick-room—unless, that is, that the patient desires their absence, in which case the wishes of the patient should go absolutely before all other considerations. A good Nurse should always know when to laugh and be cheerful and bright, but the best Nurse of all knows when not to laugh.

“In my opinion,” Nurse Flinderberg concludes, “there are too many Nurses nowadays and too little good Nursing; there is too much trying to make private nursing into routine work, instead of taking temperament and circumstances into careful consideration.”

We are specially glad to see that a Nurse “should not attempt any private nursing without at least three years’ hospital experience,” as from a former article on the same subject, which lately appeared in John Strange Winter’s paper, an impression was conveyed that the “born Nurse” and animal strength was considered preferable to a good woman well trained.

THE *Carlisle Patriot* says:—

“The Northern Workhouse Nursing Reform Association will hold its Annual Conference in the County Hall, Carlisle, next March, under the presidency of the Lord Bishop. Carlisle, I believe, has been selected out of compliment, the guardians of the Union having been wisely generous in leading the way in this important particular. The Hospital at Fusehill, under Dr. Hall and Miss Orchard, is one of the best appointed in the North, so that the delegates, when they come here, will be able to see an almost perfect system working in a small way. For this, the credit chiefly belongs to the intelligence of the Board, who, seeing that fully one-third of the indoor poor are Hospital patients, have given proper attention to that department. It illustrates how what are called the establishment charges have increased while the number of paupers has decreased. The Radical spouter roughly ascribes the movement to a grasping officialism; salaries, he says, are kept up, while relief is cut down. No aspersion could be further from the truth. The comfort, the health, the recovery of even the derelicts of civilised life are more carefully looked after than formerly. Quite falsely is the Poor Law system charged with harshness, and with preferring the rates to humanity. Next in order the credit must be given to Dr. Hall, who has confined his requirements to what is necessary and reasonable. But, however well planned or liberally supported, a Hospital system could not be satisfactory wanting the devotion and administrative abilities of a superintendent like Miss Orchard.

ONE OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE’S coadjutors in the Crimea has just passed away in her seventy-ninth year. Miss HARRIETT ANN TEBBUTT joined Miss NIGHTINGALE at Scutari on the outbreak of hostilities, and eventually became Superintendent of the General Hospital, retaining the post till the end of the war. On returning home she continued Hospital work at Liverpool, Nottingham, and Birmingham, but of late years has lived in retirement in London. Ten years ago, while on a visit to Filey with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. PAGET, of Ruddington Grange, she had a narrow escape from drowning. They were standing on the rocks near the Brigg, when they were caught by a sudden wave and carried into the sea. Miss TEBBUTT was saved with difficulty, but the others were drowned and their bodies were never recovered.

As we have received several appreciative letters concerning Dr. LEWIS MARSHALL’S paper entitled *Infant Feeding*, and, as the subject of the care of the young is of such vital importance, we take this opportunity of inserting the Rules for the General Management of Infants, recommended by the Obstetrical Society of London:—

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