

disquietude. The Matrons of our Hospitals, and the heads of Training Schools are practically unrepresented on the General Council of the Association; their opinions are disregarded and discounted; their vote at a general meeting counts as no more than the vote of a new member who has just managed to get through the examination which qualifies her for registration; and therefore the valuable experience of the heads of the profession is lost to us. Their opinion is over-riden on any subject by the vote of those infinitely less qualified to give an opinion, and we are subjected to a species of mob rule from which it is difficult to see how we may be extricated. If nothing can be done to give to the heads of the profession the place in its management, to which by their position they are entitled, it appears to me that they will do well to act on Miss Mollet's advice, and give the weight of their influence to other combinations.

I am,
Dear Madam,
Yours faithfully,
MARGARET BREAY.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—I am a Member of the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and feel very strongly the threatened degradation of every member of the Association, should the most unjust list proposed for 1897 be thrust upon us. Those amongst us who attended the late General Council meeting, and there witnessed the pre-arranged voting of Nurses belonging to certain schools, know in what spirit the members belonging to these schools will be whipped up to vote at the General Council meeting. Now I am one of those who feel that if this most dishonourable poll in connection with the packing of the new Council with Middlesex and Chelsea Nurses could be well ventilated in the press, and also by a largely signed petition be brought to the notice of the authorities of the London Nurse Training Schools, and other bodies responsible for the maintaining of public morality, that we Nurses should be supported in our just demand, that the Charter and Bye-laws of the Royal British Nurses' Association should be respected by our officials. The methods employed in the formation of the Chartered Nurses' Society have filled every honourable person with surprise, and the attempt to deprive us of personal liberty in the exercise of free speech in our Association, has been carried a step too far in packing our Council with women in the employ of two Institutions, the officials of which are all strong supporters of the high-handed policy which we so bitterly resent. I appeal to you, Madam, to propose some action by which we may co-operate and protest with all our power against this injustice. Surely Dr. Fenwick, Dr. Lovell Drage and others will come forward at this crisis, and prove to us that we may hope for some medical support in our attempt to combat this great wrong.

I am,
Yours truly,
A NURSE MEMBER OF THE GENERAL
COUNCIL,

Nursing Echoes.

* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



ALL Nurses will sympathise with the Princess Christian in the accident that happened to Prince Christian on Monday as he was crossing Praed Street. A hansom cab drove quickly by and knocked down the Prince, who was conveyed to a shop near by. Sir Francis Laking, M.D., who had travelled up by the same train as His Royal Highness at once attended His Royal Highness, who was conveyed to Buckingham Palace. It is said the injury is not of a serious nature.

* * * MISS EMILY VIRGIN, Directress of the Sophia Home in Stockholm, has come to London, bringing with her a letter of recommendation from the Queen of Sweden, who is deeply interested in the progress of modern Nursing methods. Miss Virgin is visiting our principal public Hospitals and Home Hospitals, and has been desired specially to obtain information concerning the promoting and organisation of the latter Institutions. On Friday she visited Gordon House, and expressed herself much interested in its arrangements for the comfort of the sick. Two Swedish ladies, who are now in England gaining experience in English methods of Nursing, are to make a special point of being in London early in June, so that they may visit the forthcoming Nursing Exhibition, and thus see all our most modern Nursing appliances.

* * * ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, Cambridge, has just sustained a great loss by the resignation of the much-beloved Assistant Matron, Miss Esther Young. She was presented, on leaving, with a beautiful gold watch, with an inscription from the Nursing staff and the following most valuable testimonial of the weekly Board of the Hospital:—

COCOAGENE.
COCOAGENE.
COCOAGENE.

A pure substitute for Tea and Coffee. Samples sent to *bona-fide* Nurses.
O. BARRY & Co., Finsbury, London.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)