

We feel sure that she will exert her great influence in the future to help them in their resistance against official tyranny and the illegal conduct of business which is bringing the Royal British Nurses' Association into well-merited contempt in the opinion of just and honourable people.

The *Medical Times* says, referring to the action of Sir James Crichton-Browne in preventing Miss Brey proposing her resolution:

"We confess that we were astounded, as we believe all medical men would have been, at the manner in which the discussion of a very serious vote of censure on the Committee was prevented on the above occasion, and on the flimsy pretext described."

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* * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



MISS AGNES SNIVELY, the pioneer of Nursing Reform in Canada, and superintendent of the General Hospital, Toronto, last week paid a flying visit to London, and naturally was anxious to see several of our metropolitan Hospitals, and to make the acquaintance of some of her colleagues on the Matron's Council.

We regret that, as Miss Snively's visit was so short, we were unable to arrange a gathering to meet her, for we feel sure that many would have enjoyed making the acquaintance of so representative and charming a woman; but we had the pleasure of showing her several of our best Hospitals.

The courtesy of Mr. Adrian Hope, the Secretary of the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street, in kindly personally conducting us over every department of the Institution, although it was out of visiting hours; the warm and courteous welcome accorded by Miss Brew and the Sister Marion of the Homœopathic, whose pride in their gem of a Hospital is delightful to see; and the invariable courtesy to be met with at historic "Barts" where, besides the wards, the fine Banqueting Hall, with Hogarth's decorations are to be seen within the gates; and, without, what is of equal interest to a Britisher from over the seas, the quaint and

ancient church of St. Bartholomew the Great, in Smithfield, which contains the tomb of the great Rahere, founder of St. Bartholomew's Hospital and its Priory Church, in the twelfth century; and the tablet in the Hospital wall to the honour of the martyrs of blessed memory, burnt in Smithfield in the reign of Bloody Mary; all these will no doubt prove interesting memories to Miss Snively when three thousand miles of sea rolls between her and the mother country.

One thing however, is to be regretted, that upon visiting one of our general Hospitals alone, although she introduced herself to the Matron, she met with a very discourteous reception, and was told rudely that she must call again at two o'clock, when she could see the Hospital. Rules of course there must be, as to the admittance of visitors to the wards, but surely such rules are made to be relaxed upon occasion, and one would have imagined that the welcome which good feeling dictates should be accorded to an illustrious colleague and stranger would have been the time to waive such a regulation. It is needless to say our Canadian cousin did not "return at two o'clock." This lack of *savoir faire* would be impossible in the States, where the facilities for inspecting public Institutions are perfect, and the manners of public officials equally so.

We have always entertained a certain distaste to the acceptance by officials in authority of testimonials from subordinates; and the rule made by Miss Brew, Matron of the Homœopathic Hospital, never to accept personal gifts, even from her staff, who are proverbially devoted to her, is, we feel sure, a wise rule, but we were interested during a late visit to the Hospital, to learn that the Nurses' Lenten Savings had been expended by them in procuring a beautiful carved oak bedside altar, which is easily moved from ward to ward for the sacred ceremony, which they presented to Miss Brew *for the wards*. The crimson velvet super-frontal, on which the words "He sent His word and healed them," are embroidered in letters of gold, was given by the Sisters of Bethany, and the lovely altar linen was contributed by the East Grinstead Sisters. This is a thoughtful gift.

At the same Hospital we heard the following story:—It was Sunday morning, and there happened to be several serious cases in the wards, and the children, having been told to be

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