

However, if the transport and nursing of our sick soldiers is improved, those really interested in their welfare will have cause for congratulation.

We regret to observe, from the report presented by the Treasurer, that Dr. Bezley Thorne, Dr. James Calvert, and Mrs. Dacre Craven, the three Hon. Officers who failed to convey to Miss Barlow the true text of the Resolution passed by the Executive Committee, concerning her complaint addressed to this journal, and whose unjustifiable action compelled Miss Barlow to seek protection from the High Courts of Justice, have not themselves paid the costs of the action. Miss Barlow took action against Dr. Bezley Thorne and those persons who had threatened her, and, as the judge awarded her her costs, we maintain that the least Dr. Thorne and the other defendants should have done, would have been to relieve the Corporation of the debt in which their proceedings had involved it.

NOTICE is hereby given that the
ANNUAL MEETING
of the members of the
ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION
will be held in the
GREAT HALL, ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, E.C.,
On Wednesday, 22nd July, 1896, at 11.30 a.m.

The meeting will be opened at 11.30 a.m. for the appointment of Scrutineers to examine the Ballot Papers. The ordinary business of the meeting will commence at 12 (noon).

AGENDA.

1. To read and confirm the Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
2. To receive Annual, Financial, and other Reports.
3. To elect the General Council for the ensuing year.
4. To consider the following Resolution, of which Notice of Motion has been given by Miss Margaret Breay:—

“That this Meeting of the Corporation expresses its strong disapproval of the methods of management pursued by the present Executive Committee, especially concerning the manner in which the pledges given by the Association have been broken; in which the expenditure of the Association has been allowed so greatly to exceed its reliable income; in which the provisions of the Charter and Bye-laws have been violated; and in which a member of the Association has been compelled to appeal to the Court of Chancery for protection against the Executive Committee.”

Note.—The following is an extract from the Charter:—

“At every general or Special Meeting of the Corporation every member of the Corporation shall have a vote, but no member shall be entitled to be present or to vote at such meeting who is in arrear of any subscription or other sum payable by him or her under the Bye-laws for the time being in force.”

ALICE RAVENHILL,
Secretary of the Corporation.

It will be within the memory of most of our readers that various Matrons had intended to enter a protest con-

cerning the mis-management of the Association at the last Annual Meeting, in 1895, but, as we reported at the time, a meeting was convened by certain medical members of the Executive Committee with twelve Matrons, and, upon the word of honour of these gentlemen being given to the latter that their grievances should be removed, the Matrons consented not to make their protest. It will hardly be believed that, once the Annual Meeting was over, the agreement was repudiated by the Hon. Officers, and that not one grievance has been redressed. Quite the reverse. The previous policy has been determinedly persisted in, with the result that the majority of the self-respecting Matrons on the Royal British Nurses' Association have refused to take any further part in its affairs.

We are informed that Miss Margaret Breay, a lady sincerely respected by all classes of Nurses, intends, on Wednesday, to present a protest against the management of the Association signed by a number of Matrons, and we sincerely hope that all Nurses who value truth and justice will attend the Annual Meeting, and give her their support.

Seasonable Gifts.

As a suggestion to the charitable, we may remind them that a very delightful gift to a Hospital in the summer months is the presentation of free tickets for river trips. There are many charming excursions on the river, and the outlay is by no means an exorbitant one, even were a dozen tickets to be procured and sent to a Hospital, so that convalescents with a Nurse or two in charge might enjoy the healthful river breezes, and so spend a very happy afternoon. As a word to the wise, we might remark that the gift would be more appreciated were it to be accompanied by a small money donation to defray travelling expenses to and from the Hospital to the river, with something over to afford tea and other refreshments. These river tickets would be very acceptable at Hospitals, either for children or for adults.

A present also very much appreciated by the Nursing Staffs of all Hospitals are lecture, theatre, concert, and any other tickets admitting to places of interest, education, or amusement. It frequently happens, in philanthropic and popular households, that as many as six or seven cards of admission or tickets to fêtes, etc., are unable to be used. Often, too, at the ninth hour some members of a family are prevented from using tickets they have purchased for concerts, etc. All that is needed in these cases, is to despatch the tickets to the Matron of the nearest Hospital or Infirmary, and they will be distributed to hard-working Nurses, who are often much in need of some physical and mental refreshment to counteract the depressing effect of their routine work.

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