

backward and less loyal to their fellow-workers than any other class of wage-earners. Women have so long been taught that self-sacrifice is a virtue, that many of them have lost all sense of justice due to themselves."

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"We are afraid that not only in economic matters, but upon most others also the question which the average nurse asks herself is not "What is for the greatest good of my profession?" but "What is to my own interest in the immediate future?" If Miss Black succeeds in rousing in the minds of nurses a sense of professional responsibility, she will do a great work.

\* \* \*

Miss Black speaks also of the openings there are for efficient nurses in infirmaries and asylums for the insane. She is of opinion that it is "too often thought that skilled training is not requisite for attendance on mental disease." She suggests that if any reader of her paper "feels the ardour of a reformer, she may find a field by engaging herself in one asylum after another, and making known the hardships to be found in them." This would be a most laudable occupation, but we fear that the reformer, in common with her compeers, would receive scant thanks, and probably much persecution, for her pains!

\* \* \*

THERE is a story told of a night nurse in a London hospital who got into difficulties over an order given by the house surgeon on his night round. A prescribed dose was ordered to be taken *ex aqua calida*. The nurse, after searching her stock cupboards, sent down the patient's board to the house surgeon, with a message that she was very sorry, but she had none of this ingredient in the ward, and as the dispenser was gone, would he kindly get it for her from the dispensary himself!

\* \* \*

THE *Local Government Journal*, in the following paragraph, considers that the crusade against pauper nursing was coincident with the appointment of women on the Boards of Guardians:—

"The abolition of the pauper nurse undoubtedly began in earnest with the advent of women Guardians. Until that period it has not occurred to the average Guardian that a pauper needed just as much skilled attendance as a well-to-do person if he wanted to be cured of his sickness and put upon independent legs again. In most places where the pauper nurse flourished, and where she does now, cheapness was, and is the leading characteristic of the administration. While however, cheapness may be one form of economy, it is, when hand-in-hand with nastiness and ignorance, a cruel form of extravagance."

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE PRINCE OF WALES recently presided at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new buildings at the English Hospital at Cannes, where he was welcomed by Sir Sydney Waterlow, the chairman and treasurer, to whose energy its inception is largely due. His Royal Highness delivered a speech, and was thanked by Lord Rendel. The Bishop of Gibraltar officiated at the ceremony, and many English visitors were present.

\* \* \*

Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein has consented to open the Imperial Victorian Exhibition at the Crystal Palace, on Thursday, May 6th next. Her Royal Highness will also on the same occasion present the Challenge Shield of the Ambulance Section of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the final competitions of the St. John Ambulance being arranged for the same day.

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The Autumn Congress and Exhibition of the Sanitary Institute will be held this year in Leeds, in September. A preliminary programme of the arrangements will be ready shortly, and will be included in the July number of the quarterly journal of the institute. The Council will be glad to receive as soon as possible any offers of papers, for reading at the meeting, from the members or associates.

\* \* \*

The Annual Court of Governors of the Royal Orthopædic Hospital was recently held. In consequence of the death of the late Mr. John Biddulph Martin, it was necessary to appoint a new treasurer, and Mr. Richard Biddulph Martin, M.P., brother of the late treasurer, was unanimously appointed.

\* \* \*

It is interesting to notice from the Report of this Institution that in it the operation of subcutaneous tenotomy was first performed in this country, by the late Dr. W. J. Little. This operation is now so usual, and made so little of, that it seems almost incredible that so lately as 1831 it was unknown in this country.

\* \* \*

The advertisement of the vacant matronship of St. George's Hospital appears in another column. It is noticeable that the Committee wisely require a certificate of training from candidates. This fact, by-the-way, will conclusively disqualify one lady who, it is notorious in nursing circles, has for years been "laying tracks" for this particular post, after various futile efforts to secure preferment elsewhere.

\* \* \*

Mr. William Waller, who died about eighteen months ago, bequeathed certain shares in the London and County Bank to the Lord Mayor of London, for the benefit of hospitals for seamen, on or near the borders of the Thames. The reason assigned for this bequest, which amounts to £9,000, is that when Mr. Waller was very young he was wrecked in the West Indies, and was saved by the sailors of H.M.S.

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