

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\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES has graciously consented, as Duchess of Cornwall, to give her name as Patroness of the Cornwall County Nursing Association.

NURSE CHRISTIE, who has been working on the staff of the Worli Hospital, Bombay, has contracted plague, having a sharp attack of fever and a swollen gland. We sincerely hope that she is now on the high way to recovery.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, suggests to the "Rejoicings Committee" that the scheme arranged by them should include a procession of emblematic cars representing various trades. A "particularly appropriate" car, he thinks, would be one representing a hospital bed, with patient and attendant nurses. Why not an operating theatre at once, with an operation—say an amputation—in full swing. This would, to our thinking, be quite as appropriate as the former suggestion, and would have the advantage of being more sensational. Whatever may be the pecuniary advantages derived by persons masquerading in nurses' uniform, such proceedings must always be deprecated as being in bad taste, and distinctly lowering to the nursing profession.

A TRIBUTE to the value of good nursing in the time of war is paid by the *Globe*, which states that, during the Franco-German war, nurses and doctors were "most valuable allies to the belligerents, and that the neutrality of those, who were the subjects of States not engaged in the conflict, was much more apparent than real. Forty thousand wounded men were nursed back into efficiency and rejoined their colours. It is suggested that those who are handed over to the care of doctors and nurses should, upon recovery, be disarmed and ruled out of fighting for that campaign. This nice point may, with advantage, be left to statesmen to settle; the business of nurses is simply to nurse their patients back to health as quickly as may be.

WE do not remember ever to have read a more supremely selfish letter than that addressed by Mr. W. J. Ford to the *Morning Post*, entitled "Misplaced Humanity." This gentleman, in objecting to the departure of English nurses to care for the wounded Greeks, asks:—

"Why do we English lavish our gold in every quarter of the world whenever a great calamity, whether it be war, famine, or earthquake, occurs? We are a nation of shopkeepers, so it is said, and as such should expect some return for our money. Do we get it? A "Mansion House Fund" follows a terrible disaster abroad, as surely as night follows day. Do we ever get repaid in kind? English ladies form themselves into nursing guilds for the sick and wounded during foreign wars. Have we ever had an offer of a foreign ladies' guild for our sick and wounded? Yet our wars, so-called "little wars," have been many and frequent. . . . When Paris was relieved from the stress of siege in 1871, trains loaded with supplies, provided in England, steamed into the city, as a gift from London to Paris. What have we ever received in return beyond a formal, though at the time perfectly sincere, expression of thanks? The truth is that foreign nations receive our contributions, expend them, and thank us—and there the matter ends. They have no sentimental scruples about accepting, and no sentimental ideas as to repayment. *Ergo* let us keep our money for ourselves and our subjects. We pride ourselves on our splendid isolation; other nations deride it. Let us isolate our purses, and spend on our own poor and our own suffering what we are too prone to lavish on the misery of foreigners."

After reading this we think that if the Turks wait for the assistance which Mr. Ford, in the first part of his letter, resents is not being sent to them, until this gentleman puts his hand into his pocket, they may wait for some time. We may also remark that it is a fundamental principle of political economy that "every man has a perfect right to do what he will with his own, provided he does not infringe upon the equal liberty of any other person." Therefore, those who sympathise with Greece may help her, and it remains for the friends of Turkey to do the same. If the funds are raised, we are sure there will be no lack of nurses who will volunteer to nurse the Turks. For the rest we "lavish our gold in every quarter of the world," because happily there are even in this money-seeking age in "a nation of shopkeepers," Englishmen and Englishwomen whose sympathies are not bounded by the Land's End, and Berwick-on-Tweed, who respond to the cry of human need from whatever quarter it may come, and who do not demand a *quid pro quo* before they clothe the naked, feed the starving, and nurse the sick.

MR. CHARLES CHRISTIAN, in addressing a letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, suggests that

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