

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* * * *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



THE Annual Meeting of the East London Nursing Society on Friday afternoon, March 11th, at the Mansion House, is one which has much interest for many nurses. The Society is doing good work in poor and populous districts, and must command the sympathy and merit the support of all who desire that the benefits of skilled nursing should be extended to

those amongst the very poor who are unable to avail themselves of the benefits which the hospitals afford.

MISS DE PLEDGE, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, is so much in favour of letters addressed to the Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association, which in any way criticise the general mismanagement, being allowed to "lie on the table," that no doubt she will thoroughly appreciate the action of the Chelsea Guardians in adopting this contemptuous course in connection with her recent application for a rise of salary—although discourtesy when applied to oneself perhaps does not appear so extremely amusing as when applied to others.

AND why should middle class persons become *tête monté* when their work brings them into touch with Royalty? The London infirmary world has been lately greatly amused at the attempt upon the part of Miss de Pledge to deprive the Assistant Medical Officer of the Chelsea Infirmary of his sitting-room, so that it could be adorned and utilized "for a boudoir for Princess Christian"!

THE Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary is provided with a comfortable suite of apartments, so that it is not surprising to learn that the Infirmary Board did not grant her request, but the joke is hugely appreciated, especially by Radical Guardians.

Two women, calling themselves trained nurses, have lately been convicted of theft, in the London Police Courts, and it will be asked what sort of women now use the Club Room of the Royal British Nurses' Association, when it becomes known that three clocks have been stolen from this apartment. This is very disgraceful!

THE Report, just issued, of the Staffordshire Institution for Nurses, at Stoke-on-Trent, is very

satisfactory. The staff consists of 124, viz.:—Private nurses, 93; district nurses, 15; probationers, 16. The number of cases nursed by them during the year was 738. The health of the nurses has been excellent, only four slight cases being treated in the sick cottage during the year. The earnings amounted to £4787 18s. 10d. The loss upon gratuitous and reduced fee cases and upon the district nursing was £123, which was met, in part, by £75 5s. 6d. of annual subscriptions. By a resolution passed at the last annual meeting, the sum of £322 10s. was taken from the balance to credit and divided amongst the nurses, being a bonus of 10 per cent. to each on her earnings. The committee acknowledge with gratitude grants from the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Fund of the county amounting to £126, £60 of which was specially marked "For nursing the sick poor." The committee have decided to carry the whole to a reserve fund which will be set aside for that purpose, and can be drawn upon as it is wanted. More than fourteen years have elapsed since Miss Shirley was appointed lady superintendent, during which time the institution has shown signs of a healthy prosperity, to which Miss Shirley's wise and experienced administration has very largely contributed, and the committee express the hope that she may have health and strength to continue at her post and secure their gratitude for years to come.

WE observe in the report of the Children's and General Hospital, Walthamstow, a graceful acknowledgment of the work of Miss Clarissa Hunter, the Matron. "The Council acknowledges the very valuable services of Miss Hunter as matron, to whose watchful care much of the efficiency of the Hospital is due." Those who know how much the comfort and well-being of both patients and staff depend upon the satisfactory performance of the duties of the matron's department in a hospital will not think this praise too high.

FROM the annual report of the Kent and Canterbury Nurses' Institute we learn the House Committee have much pleasure in announcing that the staff of nurses has materially increased since the beginning of the year, when it consisted only of twenty-six—it now numbers thirty-six. Of these, twenty-six are general nurses, seven maternity, and three district. Two of the latter, viz., Mrs. Seaman and Miss Hussey, kindly continue to give their valuable help gratuitously. The increase in the number of nurses is due mainly to the influx of the probationers who have been trained at the expense of the Institute, and who have proved highly satisfactory, and have fully justified the favourable reports of them which have been received from the matrons of the Hospitals where they were trained. The thanks of the

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