

A Crimean Heroine.

MRS. ANN EYRE HELY, whose portrait, by the kind permission of the editor of the *Daily Graphic*, and of the photographers, Messrs. Searle, Bros., Brompton Road, we are able to present to our readers, has recently received a recognition of the work which she performed forty-three years ago in the Crimea, by the award to her, by the Queen, of the Royal Red Cross. Mrs. Hely was a member of Miss Florence Nightingale's staff in the Crimea, and served under Dr. Parkes, at Ranki, in the Dardanelles, until after the end of the war. At one time she had no less than one hundred and fifty patients under her care. Mrs. Hely was the nurse selected to nurse



the late Duchess of Kent, mother of Her Majesty, but the Duchess died about the time that Mrs. Hely was to have commenced her duties. As Mrs. Hely was unable to undertake a journey to Windsor to receive the order at the hands of the Queen, it was presented to her at the Ravenstone Hospital, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, by Lady Cave-Browne-Cave, amid the loud cheers of a large number of spectators.

Mrs. Hely has had long to wait for her well-merited honours, it being forty-three years since she performed the work for which the order has been awarded. We understand that Dr. Barber, Master of the Ravenstone Hospital, was instrumental in obtaining this decoration for its recipient. We heartily congratulate Mrs. Hely that the value of her work has at length been acknowledged.

Nursing Politics.

WE are informed that five separate and strong petitions, against the new Bye-Laws framed by the Hon. Officers of the Royal British Nurses' Association, have been already lodged with the Privy Council, and that in every case the petitioners have prayed to be heard by Counsel. We have no doubt that these petitions will receive due consideration from their lordships.

THE conduct of the Chairman, Sir Dyce Duckworth, at the Special General Meeting of the Royal British Nurses' Association, called to pass the new Bye-Laws, on the 17th ult., is deeply to be deplored.

SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH took the responsibility of infringing the present Bye-Law (No. 1, Section D) in reference to the making of new Bye-Laws, which reads as follows:—"No new Bye-Law shall be added, and no standing Bye-Law shall be altered or rescinded at a General Meeting, unless such addition or alteration be formally proposed and seconded, by members of the Corporation, at the said meeting, nor unless notice shall have been given in writing to the Secretary of the full text of the proposed resolution in accordance with the terms of Clause 3, Section C."

IN taking this serious responsibility we consider that Sir Dyce Duckworth altogether exceeded his powers as Chairman, and we protest in the name of the Members of the Corporation against this most irregular conduct of our business. Moreover, the violation of the Bye-Laws, which are legally binding on the members, may, it is just possible, prove in this instance to have been a very injudicious proceeding on the part of the Chairman.

AGAIN, Sir Dyce Duckworth and Sir James Crichton Browne stifled all discussion on the proposed new Bye-Law No. 20 immediately Miss Breay attempted to protest against the breach of faith with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Founder of the Association, and the Matrons of the leading training schools, by depriving them of their *ex-officio* seats on the Executive Committee. We are informed that no member of the Executive Committee or Corporation had the courage to incur the inevitable odium of publicly proposing or seconding this dishonourable Bye-Law, and so the subterfuge of proposing them *en bloc* was resorted to.

IT is also quite certain that the Medical Practitioners' Association do not intend to submit to the removal of the name of their "President for the time being," from the Bye-Laws upon the suggestion of the Hon. Officers by any illegal methods. Neither will other important members

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