

### Nursing Pioneers in Greece.

WHEN the Græco-Turkish war broke out, those who did not know the truly noble character of the Crown Princess of Greece, were astonished at the manner in which she quietly took the lead in arranging for the comfort of the sick and wounded. The old Military Hospital in Athens was notoriously insanitary and unsuitable for nursing wounded men, and the adaption of the spacious Ecole Militaire for their reception, by the Crown Princess, was a splendid work; it was here that by far the greater number of sick soldiers were nursed by our English Sisters through terrible suffering to convalescence.

The war, and its consequent excitement at an end, matters might have relapsed into their former condition, but for the devotion, to the welfare of her adopted nation, of the Crown Princess. During the past year, she has initiated and carried out a reform which will have lasting effects for good. Of the old Military Hospital, all but the outer walls have been demolished, and the whole interior rebuilt on the best sanitary plans. This great national work is not yet finished, but it is sufficiently advanced for arrangements to be made for the reception of sick soldiers in the autumn.

The first Pavilion of the Children's Hospital, in the arrangement of which Her Royal Highness has taken such a keen personal interest, is also ready for occupation, and since her visit to England she has found time, in spite of numerous social engagements, to appoint the Lady Superintendents and Sisters who are to commence their pioneer work in Athens in November. Having fully discussed matters with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in an audience at Marlborough House, the Crown Princess on Wednesday last graciously received her and the nurses she had selected for the approval of Her Royal Highness, at Windsor Castle, and it is needless to say won all hearts by the simple charm and kindness of manner for which she is so sincerely loved. Her Royal Highness appointed as Lady Superintendent of the Military Hospital, Athens, Miss Jessie Parson, who holds a certificate of three years' training from King's College Hospital. Miss Parson had charge of the English Hospital at the Piræus during the war, and now holds the position of Assistant Matron to the Mile End Infirmary; as Sisters at the Military Hospital, Miss Mary Franghiadi, who holds a certificate from St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Miss Jessie Smith, certificated at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, both of these ladies being at present Sisters at the Park Fever Hospital. Miss Maud Calvert, certificated at Guy's Hospital, who holds the position of Matron, at the Branch Seaman's Hospital, was appointed Matron, and Miss Katherine Russell Fryer, trained at the London Hospital, Sister to the Children's Hospital at Athens.

### Royal British Nurses Association



THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Association was held at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington on Tuesday, July 12th, at 4 p.m.

The chair was taken by Sir James Crichton Browne, and on the platform there were Mr. Pick, Mr. Fardon, Mr. Langton, Mr. Cooper, Dr. Bezly Thorne, Miss Thorold, and Mrs. Coster. There were a few medical men and a good many nurses, but conspicuously few matrons.

The minutes of the last Annual and two Special General Meetings were read and confirmed.

Mr. Langton read the audited accounts and commented upon them at some length. He proposed, and Mr. Cooper seconded their adoption.

Dr. Bedford Fenwick pointed out that Mr. Langton had by a curious oversight omitted to read the auditor's certificate which stated that on March 31st the Association was about £250 in debt, so that the balance of £244 which Mr. Langton reported really did not exist, and the Association did not possess a penny on April 1st. Then again on the credit side of the accounts had been placed £120 which Mr. Langton now said had to be reserved for benevolent purposes. If that was so its presence was distinctly misleading, because, if deducted, the accounts would show that the Association was £120 more in debt on April 1st than appeared on the face of the accounts. Dr. Fenwick considered that it would have been more fair to the members, if this deplorable state of affairs had been frankly stated by the Treasurer. The accounts further showed that less than 1,300 members had paid their annual subscriptions, so that it was evident that a large number of members still refused to support the Association; and he was informed that only this week some thirty leading Hospital Matrons had formally resigned their membership, refusing to be any longer connected with it. It was reported that many other Matrons all over the country were preparing to follow the same course, and if they did so, the accounts showed that the results would be disastrous for the Association. In fact, he believed that the officials by breaking faith with the Matrons would go near to ruining the Association, and that instead of being as they thought, now in quiet waters, their real troubles were only just commencing. For the rent, the Association was paying, now that it had sublet most of its rooms, Dr. Fenwick considered that it was getting a very inadequate return.

Mr. Langton, in replying, complained that the cost of the Charter absorbed the reserve fund which the Association possessed in 1891, and added that "those who wanted a Charter should have paid for it out of their own pockets"—a

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