

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\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



WE publish this week a very able Paper by Miss E. E. Julian, the Matron of the Croydon Infirmary, on "The Need of Nursing Reform in Workhouse Infirmarys," and coming so soon after the admirable suggestions made by Miss C. S. Wilkie on the Poor Law Nursing Question, it appears to us most hopeful, that this question of national importance will speedily receive the amount of public attention which it deserves. When the women who hold the responsible position of Matron to large Poor Law Infirmarys, and who possess, therefore, the necessary knowledge and experience, are found capable of originating systems of nursing, and of bringing their suggestions before the public, the first element of future success is guaranteed—it proves that these ladies do not only possess the knowledge, but also a sense of public duty, and it is this sign which in our opinion is of the utmost value to the community.

MISS JULIAN has had a long and varied experience in the Nursing world. Trained at the London Hospital, where she was Sister of George Ward, Night-Sister at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Matron of the Newark Hospital, and Sister and Matron at St. Saviour's Infirmary, Dulwich, before being appointed to her present position—she has had twenty years' experience of hospital work, in which to form the lucid conclusions on a system of Nursing, which are embodied in her most valuable Paper, and we have no doubt it will be read by those in authority at the Local Government Board Office, with the consideration it deserves.

ON Saturday last at the National Orthopædic Hospital, Great Portland Street, the gifts from a bountifully laden Christmas tree were dispensed to the patients by willing hands. In this hospital the patients are, as a rule, not bodily ill, and therefore they were able thoroughly to enter into and enjoy the festivities. They also gave three hearty cheers for the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Duke being the President of the Hospital, and another hearty round for the Matron, Miss Frances Hole.

WE are informed on good authority that the Miss Amelia Wall Edwards, to whom Mr. Walter S. Broadwood left £30,000 with furnished house and other effects, is not a trained nurse as described in the press. We own a certain sense of relief at this intelligence, as we strongly deprecate large sums of money being left away from unoffending children, and such legacies left to individual nurses would certainly be prejudicial to the interests of the profession at large.

THE injustice of sacrificing individuals to bad systems is proverbial, but it is done, and we think that Miss Edith M. Hodgson, the Superintendent Nurse at the Workhouse Hospital, Newcastle, has done wisely in making quite clear her reasons for resigning her position, and refusing to be made the scape-goat for the general mismanagement. In her letter to the Board Miss Hodgson said: "that for some time now the feeling had been dominant in her mind that there was a great deal of dissatisfaction existing among various members of the Board with regard to the hospital and its administration. That, together with a large amount of worry and annoyance to which she had been subjected lately regarding the recent inquiry and various other matters compelled her with regret to tender her resignation. She could only say that during the ten months she had been there she had done her best with the material provided for her.

Regarding the present condition of the hospital it was scarcely her place to speak, but she did say that where she found utter confusion, disorder, and dirt, together with a total absence of method or discipline either among patients, workers, or staff, the place compared favourably to-day, though it was by no means now in a state of perfection. She thought if some of the members of the hospital committee, who consider the expenditure so excessive, the management and administration so very faulty and disgraceful, would occasionally visit the hospital, inspect the wards, and see the condition of the patients for themselves, it would have a beneficial effect, and, in addition, would certainly be a source of satisfaction to those responsible for the well-being of the hospital. With regard to expenditure, she was not aware that she ever asked the Guardians to do anything but that which was absolutely requisite and necessary, and which they had the power to either grant or withhold. Therefore, she considered it most unfair that she should be personally attacked on that subject at the committee meetings.

A TRAGIC occurrence was investigated by the Stockport coroner at Cheadle recently. On Tuesday week two attendants from the Cheadle

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