

## 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\* \* *All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*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 Queen, last week, conferred the decoration of the Royal Red Cross on Miss Leonora Maxwell-Muller, Lady Superintendent of the Indian Nursing Service, and Miss Sarah Clarke, Miss Mary Nutt, and Miss Minnie Powell, Army Nursing Sisters attached to the Field Hospital of the West African Frontier Force. At the ceremony, which took place at Osborne, Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg was present with Her Majesty. The nurses were introduced by the Countess of Lytton, who was in attendance.

MISS MAXWELL-MULLER was recommended for this honour by the Commander-in-Chief in India, for the keen interest she has always shown in her work, and for special devotion and competency in the discharge of her duties, and the particular pains she has taken in training British Soldiers, and Army Hospital Corps attendants, in nursing duties.

THE decoration has been conferred on the other nurses for "their devotion to the sick and their courage in contending with the many difficulties which are the necessary accompaniment of European life on the Niger; their unflinching attention and cheerfulness has probably been the means of saving many lives, and has been the constant subject of praise from all ranks of white men, both Imperial and of the Royal Niger Company."

WE learn from Miss Cox Davies, the Hon. Secretary of the League of St. Bartholomew's Nurses, that the prospects of the League are most encouraging. It already numbers over fifty members, and she has received many letters expressing great pleasure at its foundation.

OUR readers, will, we feel sure, share our interest in our foreign letter from South Africa which we print in another column. We regard the letter as most instructive, as proving from practical experience, that the representation of nurses upon any Board which controls them is

a necessity. This is the principle for which we have always contended, both as a matter of justice and also of common sense. It is reasonable to suppose that no one can give as valuable advice on nursing matters as a trained nurse, and, from this point of view alone, representation of the nursing profession should be provided for, and insisted upon, in any scheme for the organization or government of nurses.

THE Church Missionary Society has decided to adopt a uniform for the nurses working in connection with it. The everyday working dress is to be of dark blue zephyr, with linen collars and cuffs, with the alternative of white facings in hot climates. For the hottest weather a white dress with dark blue linen facings has been approved. The "best dress," presumably one to be worn when off duty, will be navy blue in colour, with cloak to match, and a blue bonnet with white strings. The shape of the cap is not yet settled, but it will probably be one which can be worn under a sun hat.

MR. GANT's recollections of his professional experiences deal this week with "The Infanticide Nurse." This woman was trained "in one of our metropolitan hospitals, famed for the nurses produced under its system of training," she leaves without obtaining her certificate, steals that belonging to her sister trained at the same institution, and ultimately murders the illegitimate child of a patient by strangling it by means of a cord tied round its neck. She is tried at the Criminal Sessions, with the result that a verdict of "concealment of birth" is returned, and "the moral of the story" we are told "is this: Nurse —, with lately the forged certificate, and now guilty of murder, underwent a short imprisonment, and then resumed her private nursing, with liberty, to again prove that *her* way of killing is no murder."

AN equally pointed moral to the story, to our thinking, is that medical men who employ unattached private nurses, and introduce them into the houses of their patients without making careful inquiry into their credentials, prove themselves lacking in any sense of responsibility to the public and to the nursing profession. If women without characters or professional qualifications were not employed by medical men as private nurses, they would cease to find their employment a paying one, and would turn their attention to more lucrative ways of money making.

SECONDLY, so long as medical men oppose the just demands of trained nurses for a system of legal

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