

WE notice with pleasure that the article which appeared in the NURSING RECORD at the time of Miss Darche's death is reprinted in this memorial of her. We have always had the deepest admiration for Miss Darche and her work, and we are glad that our words should have been appreciated by her friends to the extent shown by their republication.

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AT the laying of the foundation stone of the Cottage Hospital at Wellingborough, which Miss Mary Woolston, a resident of the town, has promised to erect, the Marquis of Northampton said he himself had had some experience of what hospital nursing and attendance meant, and he could not speak too highly of the nurses' work in this Kingdom. Indeed, we owed a deep debt of gratitude to all those ladies who undertook what many turned away from, not for the sake of making money, but for the sake of doing all that in them lay while they had the power and strength to mitigate the sufferings of humanity.

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THERE always seem to be nursing troubles at the Newton Abbott Infirmary. Another nurse having tendered her resignation, owing to ill-health, the Rev. C. Knibbs proposed that the Workhouse Nursing Association should only send nurses whose health they could certify, and Mr. Bartlett suggested that the nurses should be examined by the medical officer before being appointed. The medical officer supported the suggestion that a medical certificate should be received before the nurses were appointed. This is a most reasonable suggestion, and one, no doubt, upon which the Workhouse Nursing Association would be pleased to act. They would not then be held responsible if the worries of certain institutions proved an intolerable strain upon their nurses.

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RUMOUR has it that under a new *régime* at one of our hospitals, the house staff have taken to writing on the patients' boards, "Back to be done with spirit and starch," owing to the number of bed-sores. If this is true, it would appear as if the new *régime* is not altogether infallible.

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EVIDENTLY the Scarborough Guardians, as Yorkshiremen, are not such good judges of the age of a woman as of that of a horse. At a recent meeting they unanimously decided to ask for the resignation of the Superintendent Nurse of the Infirmary, she having understated her age by six years upon her appointment. This is a serious deception under the Poor Law, as women whose age necessarily prevents very active service to the sick, become entitled to a pension; and

as the limit of age is 60 in the Poor Law Service, the Scarborough nurse would have been 65 before the Guardians had a right to dispense with her services. Guardians of the Poor must demand authenticated copies of birth certificates in future.

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WE have some sympathy with the Rev. Evan Evans, one of the Bangor and Beaumaris Guardians, in his contention that it is a great hardship upon the Welsh Infirmary patients that nurses are selected who cannot speak Welsh, the Chairman remarked that the Guardians had been in a dilemma for three months, as they were unable to get a trained head nurse who spoke Welsh. Surely Welsh women with a knowledge of the language are offering themselves for training in many hospitals and infirmaries. They should do so more and more, if their own sick people have need of their services.

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THERE was always a dash of splendour about "George Nathaniel," now Lord Curzon, and apparently, like the gorgeous Romans of old, he has appeared before the delighted Poona populace "almost smothered under countless garlands of flowers presented to him by native officials."

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THE truth is, Lord Curzon, like the late Lord Beaconsfield, is in affinity with the Oriental, and his highly-coloured personality appeals to their sympathies, and, indeed, he is going to be a great Viceroy. On Sunday, he started before breakfast and spent the entire morning in making a complete circuit of the plague hospitals and segregation camps. He took a great interest in everything, and asked the officials many questions regarding the housing and feeding arrangements, etc. In the afternoon he visited the general plague hospital, where now there are only 200 patients. He entered several wards, asked sympathetic questions regarding individual patients, and finally was photographed in a group with the nurses and a number of the plague patients from the convalescent wards.

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AN important case concerning the responsibility for the death of a patient—which occurred after an abdominal operation—where it was found that a sponge had been left in the abdomen, has lately been very publicly discussed by the Committee of an American Hospital. The operating surgeon blamed the assistant chief nurse, but the nurse proved that she had carefully counted the 12 sponges after the operation, that according to custom a thirteenth sponge was called for and used by the surgeon whilst closing the incision, and that it was this identical sponge which the surgeon must have slipped into the abdomen and left there.

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