

Gallant Little Wales.

On Tuesday last the nursing staff and stretcher bearers of the Welsh Hospital, which is about to proceed to South Africa, were inspected at Marlborough House.

The Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and Princess Victoria of Wales were present, attended by the Hon. Sydney Greville. The Ladies' Committee of the Welsh Hospital was represented by Viscountess Parker, Mrs. Brynmor Jones (hon. secretary), Lady Williams, Lady Evans, Mrs. Frederick Roberts, Mrs. Rose Bradford, Mrs. Thomas Owen, Mrs. Thomas Jones, Mrs. Habershon, Mrs. Edmund Owen, Mrs. Alfred Hughes, and Mrs. Foulkes Jones. There were also present Sir D. Evans, K.C.M.G., Mr. Alfred Thomas, M.P., Mr. Brynmor Jones, Q.C., M.P., Colonel Pryce-Jones, M.P., Professor Frederick Roberts, M.D., Mr. Edmund Owen, F.R.C.S., Mr. E. Vincent Evans, Professor A. W. Hughes, M.D. The officer in charge was Major Cockerill. The surgeons were Professor Thomas Jones, F.R.C.S., and Mr. Mills Roberts; the assistant surgeons, Mr. Laing Evans and Mr. H. Davies. The nursing staff consisted of Miss Marion Lloyd (Matron), and Misses Pugh, Martin, Lloyd, Alice Williams, Bulkeley Williams, Owen, Jones, Lewis, and Sage.

Sir D. Evans (hon. treasurer), in the absence of Sir John Williams (Chairman of the Committee), expressed the thanks of the Hospital Committee for the gracious reception accorded to the staff.

The Matron and nurses were presented by Viscountess Parker.

The Prince of Wales expressed the great pleasure felt by the Princess and himself in welcoming the Committee and staff of the Hospital. He wished the latter a safe journey out to South Africa, and a safe return home after carrying out their duties with credit to themselves and to Wales.

Major Cockerill, responding on behalf of the staff, said: "I beg to thank your Royal Highness for the kind and most gracious manner in which we have been received, and to say that we will endeavour to our very utmost to do our duty. I beg, further, to be permitted to thank the Princess of Wales for her presence, and for her gracious sympathy." He then called for three cheers for their Royal Highnesses.

The Princess of Wales has contributed eighty of the mattresses for the equipment of the Hospital.

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** * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*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 extract one grain of comfort from the deliberations of the Standing Committee on Law on the Midwives' Bill. Sir George Pilkington, M.P. for Southport, remarked that "the time had come when all nurses, whether for the sick or otherwise, should be brought under control and registered." Quite so—but they must be brought under a system of self-government, and not placed absolutely at the mercy of the associated profession of medicine, and thus deprived of all economic independence.

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 TRAINED nurses have had a bitter lesson of what treatment is likely to be their lot under such a *régime* from their experiences in the Royal British Nurses' Association, the medical members of which have practically driven out of its ranks every self-respecting nurse member, by their arbitrary and unscrupulous methods of absolute domination. The Royal Charter of Incorporation, which the public spirited members of the nursing profession worked for and won for themselves in 1893, has been "nobbled" and rendered null and void by a gang of small minded medical men, who *fear* the competition of the duly qualified registered nurse, and who will continue to fight against this reform until the public awake to the dangers to which they are subjected by the present lack of organization. It is public opinion which alone will compel these men to treat trained nurses with a modicum of justice; and when the public once grasp the fact that *personal interest and sex intolerance*, upon the part of such men as the wire pullers of the Royal British Nurses' Association—prevent the nurses effecting professional reform for the protection both of the sick and themselves, we consider that these autocrats will receive the rightful condemnation which is their due. Men who "coerce" defenceless women, should be deprived of all power over them; and to make these facts plain, we shall continue to advocate public enquiry into the nursing question.

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