

The Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

The Report for 1901 of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund for providing female medical aid to the women of India, is a very satisfactory document. It says in part: "The past year has seen the successful establishment of the Victoria Memorial Scholarships Fund for training Indian midwives, for which about Rs.6,500,000 has been raised by Lady Curzon. A special report will be published by her Excellency on this subject when the careful study which is now being made throughout India as to the best methods of training has reached a more mature stage and when definite plans of action adapted to various localities have been decided on. The main feature of the past year is the marked improvement which is reported in the financial condition of the association, and especially noticeable is the continued progress which has been made in this direction in Bombay. The committee again tenders its grateful acknowledgments to Lady Northcote, who has continued her exertions with such gratifying success. Lady Amphyll submits a report of good work in Madras, and Sir Anthony MacDonnell has handed over the affairs of the North-West Provinces branch in a decidedly satisfactory condition to his successor. The number of patients treated in various female hospitals and institutions shows a steady increase in spite of the disadvantages of plague and famine in several quarters. In all one million seven hundred and fifty-five thousand patients have been relieved during the year through female agency. The association now supports forty lady doctors who possess full medical degrees, besides eighty assistant surgeons and a large number of hospital assistants and midwives. The value of the hospitals and various institutions owned by and connected with the association is computed at about £200,000, and the central, provincial, and district branches possess investments of over £150,000. Nearly five hundred women are now studying medicine in various classes in the medical colleges and schools in India, and nearly every important native State in India is taking an active share in the work. Lady Curzon has spared no efforts to ensure the success of the fund. The honorary secretary is Lieutenant-Colonel E. H. Fenn, R.A.M.C., surgeon to the Viceroy."

It is so seldom that trained nurses benefit by the wills of their patients that we record with interest a bequest to a Nurse Richmond by the late Miss Lucy Elizabeth Buckle, of the Chesnuts, Howden, Yorkshire. Under Miss Buckle's will the nurse receives her residence, The Chestnuts, with the furniture, etc., therein, besides a legacy of £8,000.

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 Annual Meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, was held last week at the Town Hall, the Lord Mayor, Alderman Charles Petrie, presided. There was a large attendance, including the Bishop of Liverpool (Dr. Chavasse) and the Right Rev. Monsignor Nugent. A tribute to the valuable work done by the nurses was paid by Dr. Hope, Medical Officer of Health, who wrote: "My experience and observation enable me to say that the influence for good of the district nursing staff is by no means confined to the patient; their presence in the houses of the poorer classes is a guarantee of an improvement in the general household arrangements—cleanliness and order take the place of the dirt and neglect which had previously existed. These experiences are so frequent and so constant that for years past I have regarded the district nursing staff of the city as a valuable accessory to public health work."

The Bishop of Liverpool also said that while he could not speak from very close acquaintance with the work in Liverpool, he knew its value both in Oxford and in North London. When he began his clerical work more than thirty years ago, district nursing was unknown in the town in which he lived. The sick rooms were then habitually in disorder, with discomfort, and stifling atmosphere, all round. He was convinced that many men and women were crippled for life by illness who, if they had been properly nursed, might have been left without a scar. He remembered, when he was working in Holloway, the introduction of a colony of nurses to North London, and the wonderful change that came over the sick room as a consequence of their ministrations. At first the poor people, so conservative in their ideas, were suspicious of the nurses, but they were soon understood, and the change was marvellous. The work of the nurses had been a great help to him as a clergyman. Many a hard heart that had been frozen by ill-usage and the severe struggle for a livelihood, and which had lived for years in indifference, was taught by

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