

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* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.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 Duchess of Buccleugh and Queensberry is making a special appeal in Scotland in connection with the Anniversary of Queen Victoria's Death, for the Endowment Fund in aid of the Scottish Centre and District Home at Edinburgh of the Jubilee Institute for Nurses. £1,438 has been already received.

It is reported that the Indian Army Nursing Service is to be augmented by seven junior nursing sisters and thirty-two nursing sisters. This is good news, as progressive and satisfactory as the work of this Service has been since its inauguration in 1888, the extension of its benefits have required to be largely increased for some time.

"Mexico as I Saw It," Mrs. Alec. Tweedie's new book, should be read by nurses with a love for lively description of travel. It is delightfully fresh and informing. With an eye for matters medical, Mrs. Tweedie refers to "Pinto," (known to us in this country as Pinta) a tropical skin disease—allied to ringworm—examples of which she met in various parts of the country. "A number of men," she says, "I met, with strange white and blue patches on their brown skins due to pinto, that much-dreaded disease, called by the natives *Saltsayanolitzth*. It is supposed that mosquitoes carry it as they do yellow fever, and the Indians use a particular plant named *Isteneztik* for its cure, though the remedy does not usually prove very successful. Dr. Patrick Manson tells me he considers pinto contagious, and doubts the Mexican theory of mosquito transport. There are four kinds of pinto—red, blue, indigo, and white, the last being the worst, for that means losing the pigments of the skin. In its early stage pinto can be stopped sometimes by cauterisation, but later mercury is required. Unfortunately, once it begins it is almost impossible to eradicate, and it often increases with alarming rapidity. The disease is hideous, something like leprosy, which also exists in Mexico, where it is not 'separated,' unfortunately."

It is reported that an electric tramcar hospital

with all the appliances of a depot for the sick, will be one of the features of Baltimore. The scheme is to have the hospital car ever in readiness for a call; that it be given the right of way, and its passage over the route be facilitated in every manner by other traffic.

Dr. Henri Nachtel, of Paris, who has recently visited London has brought vividly before us how obsolete is the ambulance service in London as compared with that of Paris. He stated that "Vienna, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw, as well as many provincial towns in France, have followed the lead set by the French capital. London, where such a system is perhaps more imperatively needed than anywhere else, is the only great European city lacking it."

Electric ambulances have been widely used in the United States for some time, and are considered practical and efficient by experienced hospital managers.

In the far-off days of our probation, Friday was polishing day, and we are bound to say that the ward floors were made to shine like glass—much to the danger of life and limb. We see now the hurrying House-Surgeon, his coat tails flying, and well remember our half suppressed laugh of delight, as down he went, slithering along on the ward's shining surface.

Things are changed. Nurses no longer sling the long polishing brush—fine healthy exercise, by the by. In these days "Ronuk," Limited, provides our hospitals and asylums with a magic Sanitary Polish, and if you want to see it to perfection, pay a visit to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and there you can judge of its quality. By a new arrangement the ward floors are now polished by "Ronuk's" men—each ward is done once in three weeks, a ward taking about an hour to "shine." We learn that the arrangement is giving perfect satisfaction to the hospital authorities.

An interesting gathering took place last week in the hall of the United Y.M.C.A., Stirling, when Miss Falconer, late Matron of the Royal Infirmary, was made the recipient of a handsome testimonial from her many friends and the subscribers to the Infirmary funds. Provost Thomson presided. He observed it would have been unfitting and unworthy had Miss Falconer's retirement been allowed to pass unnoticed. The Infirmary had been a success, very much owing to the way it had been managed, not only by the medical staff, but by the Matron. He called upon Sir Alan Seton Stewart, Bart., of Touch, to make the presentation of the testimonial, which con-

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