

## NURSING ECHOES.

\*\* Communications (duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith) are especially invited for these columns.

THE Cairo correspondent of the *British Medical Journal* last week reported the following items, which will interest many of my readers:



"The Prime Minister, Riaz Pasha, lately paid a visit to Kasr-el-Aini Hospital, and, after a minute inspection, expressed his entire approbation of the manner in which this establishment is conducted. He was especially struck with

the cleanliness and order prevailing in the female division, and when informed that this was greatly owing to the English Nursing Sisters, and that it was proposed to increase the number of these ladies from two to six, at once declared his willingness to assist in bringing about this desirable result; so there is every reason to hope that before long the necessary Order of Council will be issued; As the quarters occupied by the Sisters at present are not considered very healthy, in consequence of their proximity to the river, it is proposed to build a house at the entrance of the Hospital, of which the lower portion shall be devoted to administrative purposes, the upper floor being reserved for the sisters."

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THE first meeting of the Session of the B.N.A. was held on Thursday, at eight p.m., at 20, Hanover Square. There was a very good attendance, and the large room on the ground floor—which I hear is to be part of the library of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society—was quite filled. It was explained afterwards that we shall meet in the large Council Room when the building is finished, and have the advantages not only of more room, but the electric light as well, in place of the somewhat odorous oil lamps in use on Thursday. And as we shall have no further gatherings here until the third week in January, everything will probably be in most excellent order by then. Mr. Brudenell Carter took the chair, and opened the meeting by warmly congratulating the Association on the substantial volume just issued as the first Annual Report. *En parenthèse*, I am asked to say that anyone who became a Member before July 31, and has not received her copy of the Report, should write at once to the Secretary. Also that anyone can obtain a copy for one shilling from the Secretary,

at the office, or for fourteenpence if it is to be sent by post.

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DR. CHEADLE then read a most interesting and instructive paper on "The Progress of Hygiene," which I am very glad for my readers' sakes to hear will shortly appear in these columns, so that Members all over the world can share in the pleasure of perusing it. Miss Wood opened the discussion by asking for more information as to means of ventilating the sick room, and of dispensing with the use of gas. She strongly urged that Nurses should be "missionaries of health" in addition to their more routine duties of attending to the sick. Dr. Bedford Fenwick told how in many parishes whole houses and even alleys had been improved in cleanliness and healthiness by the mere effect of the example of the District Nurses upon the inhabitants amongst whom they worked, and contended that in the best possible way these women were undoubtedly leading the people to higher things. He also strongly endorsed Dr. Cheadle's denunciation of the evil effects of gas, and gave an instance in which he had seen great harm result to health from its constant employment in business offices.

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MR. BRUDENELL CARTER asked Dr. Cheadle whether he advocated the boiling of milk intended for household consumption, and referred to the well-known instances in which milk was undoubtedly the source of infection in epidemics of scarlet fever, and even of diphtheria. No one else showed any inclination to say anything else, which I must say once again, as I said last Session, is a great pity, because a good deal of the interest of such meetings as ours must depend upon the after discussion, and I saw several members present who I feel sure could have said a good deal, and said it very well, upon the points raised by the Paper. However, Dr. Gage Browne proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Cheadle, and Dr. Bedford Fenwick a similar vote to Mr. Brudenell Carter. Both were warmly accorded and acknowledged, and the meeting then concluded.

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THE *Lancet* last week says that a "new patent bed, called the 'Turnover,' the invention of a Nurse, was exhibited last week at the Fine Arts Rooms, Gower Street. When sufficient funds have been subscribed to defray the cost of the invention, it is proposed to present the bed to a Hospital; or else to utilise it for nursing the sick poor in the East End. Particulars may be obtained from Lady Mary Glyn, the Vicarage, Kensington." The name surely is not auspicious, but it is quite possible that the bed may be a great improvement on those ordinarily in use for

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