

Nursing Echoes.

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A large and distinguished company attended at the Acland Nursing Home, Oxford, on Saturday afternoon, on the occasion of the opening of the new wing containing operating, sterilising, and anaesthetic rooms, with lift and open air balconies. The ceremony was performed by Dr. W. Osler, Regius Professor of Medicine, who said he felt sure all present would be glad to hear the following letter:—

“Balmoral Castle, October 11th, 1906.

“DEAR MISS ACLAND,—The Queen has seen your letter and enclosures, and desires me to congratulate you most warmly on the great success of an undertaking which must be so dear to your heart, and which bears your great and good father's name. The reports of the two branches of the institution are also most satisfactory. With every good wish from her Majesty for the welfare of the Acland Home,

“Believe me,

“Yours truly,

“CHARLOTTE KNOLLYS.”

It must be exceedingly gratifying, Professor Osler continued, to receive this kind of message from her Majesty. They had, in their public hospitals and public institutions, provided in a very remarkable way for the welfare of the poor, but the rich and well-to-do, and those who were not eligible for admission to the public hospitals, had also to be considered. It was for them that such an institution as this was specially required. A home of this description, erected in memory of Mrs. Acland and Sir Henry Acland, who for so many years was the honoured Regius Professor of Medicine in that University, was particularly useful for acute surgical cases, enteric fever, and nervous diseases. But there were local conditions that made the home very necessary. There were some 3,000 undergraduates at Oxford, and it was very important that, in cases of serious illness, there should be an institution where they could be cared for. He did not know the reason until that day why the University had not its own sanatorium. It was not necessary, because this home supplied the

place, and it was very gratifying to know that so many of the undergraduates, when need arose, came to the home and received the benefit of its service. Thanks to those who had kindly and generously helped towards the building fund, it was hoped that they might soon be able to claim Mr. Andrew Carnegie's and Mr. F. J. Mason's conditional promises of £250 and £50 towards the last £300 of the total amount required, namely, £2,500, of which there remained £1,250 to collect.

Katharine Duchess of Westminster has consented to unveil, on November 1st, five stained glass lancet windows which a number of friends in the City and County of Chester have placed in the chapel of Chester Infirmary to the memory of the Misses Frances Mary and Emily Wilbraham. The memorial is happily emblematic of the noble works of the two sisters, who delighted in nothing so much as nursing the sick poor. The late Duke of Westminster styled them the “Florence Nightingales of Chester.” The Dean of Chester will dedicate the memorial.

If you want to know why the trained nurse no longer reveres her uniform, take a trip on the top of a motor-bus to Finchley—a drive through villadom will give you the clue.

On the pavement for miles you will see dozens and dozens of little nursemaids projecting their “prams” dressed up in cloak and bonnet, with white strings complete, in the garments which used to be held to denote the wearer as a member of the profession of nursing.

Now presumably “half-gentry” mammas imagine it gives their household a *cachet* to dress their maids up in professional garb. Anyway one can but sympathise with trained nurses in this matter. Their only resource is to wear their uniform specklessly neat and clean, and not as if it had come out of a rag bag.

Recently there have sprung up quite a crop of Registry Offices for Nurses, which receive publicity principally through the lay nursing press, and which purport to supply the public with nurses, in the same way that governesses and secretaries, domestic servants, etc., are supplied. It is from time to time asserted by nurses who have applied to such agencies that they are merely referred to employers whose wants have been advertised in the nursing press. The following letter, from a correspon-

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