

## 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*\* \* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, accompanied by a lady-in-waiting, paid a visit to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, on Saturday. Miss Cox-Davies, the Matron, conducted her round the wards. Her Highness conversed with many of the patients.

The Secretary of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, of which Queen Alexandra is patron, states:—"The Committee of the Institute have had brought to their notice the report of the Walthamstow, Woodford, Wanstead, Chingford, and Highams Park Joint Nursing Association for the year to September 29th, 1906, in which is printed a list of the Council of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and the tenor of which conveys the impression that the Association is in connection with the Queen's Institute. It is desired to state that there is no connection whatever between this Nursing Association and Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and that the report in question has been issued without the knowledge or authority of the Institute."

The appointment of Miss E. M. Musson, Assistant Matron at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to the important position of Matron of the Swansea General and Eye Hospital, makes vacant a very desirable post on the nursing staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. It is rare at the present day for the Matronship of a hospital of importance to be gained by a candidate who has not either held a Matron's post previously, or that of Assistant Matron in a large hospital, and as vacancies in the later positions are few, they are the more to be coveted, affording, as they do, admirable and unique experience in executive work.

At the recent annual meeting of the Cumberland Nursing Association held at Carlisle, the Countess of Lonsdale was re-elected President. In the report read by Lady Mabel Howard, it

was stated that the work had been increased during the year. Forty-six nurses, three of them Queen's nurses, are now at work in the districts affiliated to the Association. The treasurer's balance-sheet showed that last year's expenditure was about £570, and there remained a balance to the good of £35.

It is reported from Edinburgh that everywhere the work of good and devoted women is growing apace, especially the practical Christian work of church deaconesses. The Deaconess Hospital, founded in the pleasure of Edinburgh by the Established Church of Scotland a few years ago, has exceeded the expectations of the most sanguine of its promoters. The work which it has undertaken for the social and medical welfare, not only of Edinburgh, but of Scotland, is of a very gratifying character. Numbers of patients are treated in the hospital, whilst many are visited in their homes by the nurses and parish sisters of the institution. The latter are stated to be thoroughly trained. The patients, whose souls as well as bodies are attended to, come from all parts. The nurses and sisters, after a time of probation in the institution, are sent to other parts, so that its agents are now to be found carrying on their noble work in most of the parishes in Scotland.

At the 156th session of the Meath Hospital, Dublin, Sir Lambert Ormsby, in giving a brief historical sketch of the hospital from its foundation in March, 1753, gave some interesting information of the nursing department in days gone by. Nurses in this hospital, when I came here first, said Sir Lambert, were nothing more than handy women of the "Sairey Gamp" type. They never received any systematic training whatever. The medical nurse "Bridget" could neither read nor write, never wore a cap or apron, was attentive after her own light, and was the greatest favourite with the late Dr. William Stokes. Nurse Bolger on the surgical landing was a little fat old woman, who on class morning when the clinical teacher was coming up the stairs, would meet him on the landing with a bundle of towels under her arm and exclaim: "Here comes the 'Surgent' and the 'Stugents.'" The accident nurse was a handy woman in her own way and did her best with the rough people who enter the casualty wards frequently drunk and disorderly, and she had a wonderful way of quelling such disturbance. We then had 'Nurse Springer,' the night nurse, who, in a critical juncture on the admission of a "disorderly drunk," was invaluable, and did more work by

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