

danger a society was founded in Great Britain on December 7, 1887, called the "British Nurses' Association." Very wisely the management of this society is in the hands of medical men and of Trained Nurses, who are at the head of and represent their Hospitals. It is surely much to be desired that a branch of the British Nurses' Association should be established in Victoria.

All that is possible should be done to raise the status of the Nursing profession in Victoria, and to encourage women of good education and position to join its ranks.

V.—PENSION FUND.

Trained Nurses are not by nature more provident and saving than other women, and some step should be taken to promote the establishment of a pension fund for their benefit when they are laid aside by illness, accident, or old age. Some Hospitals in Great Britain provide generously for those who serve them for a lengthened period. One Hospital, for instance, provides each Nurse, after twenty years' service, with a cottage and £12 per annum. The National Pension Fund in Great Britain has met with large support, not only from philanthropic persons, but from Trained Nurses themselves, and it would offer a good example for the institution of a similar fund in this colony. A grateful patient could not show his gratitude better than by sending a cheque to the Pension Fund, to be paid to the credit account of the Nurse whom he desires to benefit.

A Nurse's life is a hard one; she runs many risks and may at any time be unfitted for further work. Is it not, therefore, the truest kindness to encourage and invite her to be provident, and to put by in view of the time when she must take the rest that she has earned?

NURSING ECHOES.

I AM glad to be able to note—*vide Metropolitan*—that Dr. Saunders, at the request of the Commissioners of Sewers, has investigated the sanitary condition of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, with the result that "he found that since 1878 there had been only six deaths of *employés* in the Hospital. He thought that was remarkable, considering that the Nurse Staff numbered two hundred and forty, while there were thirteen residential medical men, some thirty students,



and about sixty other persons, making a total of three hundred and forty-three, the whole administering to over six hundred beds; and in respect to the case of the Nurse who died recently, it was proved that the disease was not due to insanitation in the building." Mr. Shaw and Mr. Alderman Knill (members of the same Commission), as Governors of the Hospital, were sure that everything had been done that could be done to make the Hospital in a sanitary condition. The promptitude of the St. Bartholomew's Hospital authorities on the matter is worthy of every praise and much imitation by the laggard and indifferent Governors of other similar Institutions.

It is a decided sign of the times and present day progress when we find that the Training School for Nurses of Harper Hospital (U.S.A.) proposes to give the pupils only eight hours' work per day, and to let them have one-fourth of what they earn in Private Nursing. This is revolution with a vengeance.

I HAVE much pleasure in stating that Miss F. E. Snudden, M.R.B.N.A., who was the successful candidate in the Fifteenth Post-Card Competition, has chosen for her prize, "Norris' Nursing Notes," Morten's "Hospital Life," and Blackmore's "Lorna Doone"—a very happy selection of books.

NURSE SEIDLER, M.R.B.N.A., has been declared the successful candidate in the Sixteenth Post-Card Examination. I can heartily congratulate this lady, as I have been shown the very large number of post-cards received for this competition, which is growing more popular every week.

At the annual meeting of *The North London Nursing Association for the Poor*, held at the Athenæum, Camden Road, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., Sir Morell Mackenzie, who occupied the chair, remarked that great satisfaction must undoubtedly be felt not only with the amount of work done by the Association in the past, but also by the fact that such work was largely on the increase, and carried out with efficiency and economy. Ten thousand six hundred poor people have been during the last ten years nursed in their own homes, and year by year there has been a constant increase, so that whilst in 1880 the number amounted to nearly four hundred and eighty, in 1890 the figures advanced to seventeen hundred. As regards the efficiency with which the Nursing arrangements are carried out, reference need only be made to the testimonials from patients, doctors, and subscribers; and the economy with which the Association is worked

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)