

this meeting, recognising the good service done by the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association, pledges itself to support the Association in carrying on its work, and in extending the sphere of its operations." This was seconded by Mr. Rathbone, M.P., and carried. Thanks were given at the close to the Duke of Westminster for the use of his house for the meeting.

THE half-yearly examinations are just over at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and all old Nurses will be glad to hear that Miss Nellie Cross, the daughter of the much-respected Secretary, has been awarded the gold medal as the best Nurse of her year. This is a very great honour, as it means a consistent record of good work in the Wards for a term of three years, and of having passed a first-class theoretical examination.

THE Board of the Manchester Royal Infirmary has lately established a scheme of pensions for their Nurses which provides an annuity of £25 per annum to those who have been on the staff for twenty-five years, and who shall have attained the age of fifty-five. It also provides for gratuities or pensions to Nurses of ten years' service, whose health shall break down whilst in the discharge of their duties so as to unfit them for further Nursing work. Hitherto the pensioning and relief of old servants have been carried out in a rather haphazard way, without any fixed or definite rules being laid down.

THERE was a brilliant gathering on Monday, at 12, Sussex Square, Brighton, one of the finest mansions in that old-fashioned group of miniature palaces. A large crowd filled the square, and all the balconies were bright with gay dresses. The sky was cloudless, the sea was sparkling and glistening in the sun, and everything favoured the Royal visit. Punctually to the appointed minute the procession of carriages drove up the square amidst the cheers of the great crowd, and Princess Christian, attended by Lady Jeune and Colonel Gordon, and accompanied by a large number of distinguished people, entered the Home, being received by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the hon. secretary, who presented her with a beautiful bouquet. Lady Audrey Buller, Mrs. Beer, the Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury, Sir Albert Sassoon, Sir Frederick and Lady Milner, Dr. Schofield, Mr. Knowsley Thornton, Mrs. Lionel Lucas, and other members of the Committee accompanied Her Royal Highness upstairs to the drawing-room.

MRS. FENWICK first gave a short account of the reasons for the establishment of the Home and of

its present satisfactory financial position. Then the Rev. Mr. Newton, the vicar of the parish, offered up a short prayer, asking for the Divine blessing on the Home, on all who worked for it and in it, and all who from time to time came to its friendly shelter. Then after a short pause the Princess said:—"As the head of the largest body of Trained Nurses in existence, the Royal British Nurses' Association, I naturally take the keenest interest in everything affecting their welfare and their work. I earnestly hope that this Home may be of the greatest benefit not only to tired Nurses, but also to the public upon whom they have to attend. It gives me great pleasure now to declare this Home open, and I hope it is only the first of many similar Homes." There was great applause, renewed again and again, when the Mayor stepped forward, and welcoming Her Royal Highness to Brighton, proposed a cordial vote of thanks to her for founding and opening the Home; when Mr. Sassoon seconded the vote; and when the Princess left the room and proceeded upstairs to inspect the house.

THEN there were good things provided for visitors in the dining-room, and when the Princess had gone into the Matron's room to have tea, everyone trooped upstairs to view the premises. I have no space nor words adequately to describe how beautifully decorated and furnished the house is. The admiration which was warmly expressed on every side was certainly deserved, as those who are fortunate enough to gain admission to the Home in future, will discover. I heard that rooms are engaged for Nurses coming this week from Birmingham, Oxford and Wales, as well as others from London. At 4.30 the Princess drove away to catch the express train to town, and the visitors and crowd slowly dispersed, wishing the Nurses' Home a prosperous and useful career.

I WOULD like to remind my readers that the recent and first issue of the journal of the Royal British Nurses' Association contained a notice that the members were invited to express their views as to the desirability of the issue of a badge to members of the Association. I cannot impress too strongly on those in whose hands the decision on this subject has thus been placed the importance of making their views known without delay by sending even a post-card on the subject to the Secretary.

THE spring double number of that excellent publication the *Gentlewoman* has been sent to me. It contains a new departure in the way of coloured lithographic work which is decidedly attractive, and besides the usual features of its

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