

NURSING ECHOES.

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H.R.H. Princess Christian has, I am told fixed Friday, the 4th of December, for the *Conversazione* of the Royal British Nurses' Association, when she will bestow the badge of the Association upon those Members who wish to possess an outward and visible sign of their principles—the organisation and reform of their profession. Her Royal Highness will doubtless have a most enthusiastic welcome, and I would advise all who wish to receive their badge from the hands of their President, to apply for the decoration as speedily as possible.

RUSSIAN lady doctors have also, lately, adopted a badge, and wear a special insignia to denote their profession.

PRINCESS LOUISE (Marchioness of Lorne), as president of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, lately presided at a meeting of the council in Edinburgh. Lord Reay detailed the objects of the Association, and her Royal Highness said she would not fail to tell Her Majesty all that she had seen and heard that day. A letter was read from Dr. Peile, president of the London Committee, intimating that Dr. Barber had been appointed a member, in the room of the late Sheriff Crichton. The treasurer reported the receipt of a gift of £500 for the purpose of forming the nucleus of a fund for invalid or aged Nurses. It was resolved to ask the Princess to obtain the sanction of Her Majesty to such a fund, and a vote of thanks was warmly accorded her Royal Highness for her presence in the chair.

Miss S. A. TAYLOR has been appointed Matron to the St. John's Hospital, Northampton. She was trained at St. George's Hospital for a period of three years, and after gaining a certificate was appointed Head Nurse or Sister in the same institution, a post which she held for two years. Miss Taylor is a Member of the Royal British

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Nurses' Association, and a Registered Nurse. Committees of country hospitals are becoming more and more alive to the advantages of placing thoroughly efficient Nurses at the head of the Nursing Departments of their Institutions.

MISS MARY M. BELCHER has made an apology for her inaccurate statements concerning the R.B.N.A., in last week's *Woman's Herald*. I hope she will act on Miss East's kindly advice and obtain reliable information concerning the work of the Nurses' Association from the office, 8, Oxford Circus Avenue. I feel sure, interested as she is in her fellow Nurses, she cannot fail to appreciate its great and difficult work.

I HAVE lately heard a celebrated physician state that he is no friend to the so-called milk diet so freely prescribed for patients suffering from typhoid fever. His argument is that typhoid is a disease of the intestines, causing high fever and general symptoms by the absorption of pathogenic material from the intestine. If milk-diet is not justifiable in the ordinary "catarrhal" intestinal disturbance of the adult and infant, why, then, should it be so where a well-known typical form of intestinal disease is before us? If we feed the bacteria more than the child in intestinal catarrh by giving milk, why, then, do we commit the same error in typhoid by giving this food? In both affections we have decomposition of food in the intestine; in typhoid as well as in summer-complaints we may observe nausea, vomiting, distension of stomach and intestines, increased diarrhoea and rise of temperature after the administration of milk. To put lime-water in the milk does not prevent its later infection in the intestine, nor does its sterilization. If we discard milk in intestinal catarrh and enteritis, why not in cases where we have almost entire suspension of digestion, assimilation, and absorption of food, and a large quantity of pathogenic fermenting material passing over typhoid ulcers? Reflections of this kind have forced him to discard milk entirely as a food in typhoid fever. Boiled soups of rice, dried peas, oatmeal, lentils, and barley, and cold water, tea, and coffee *ad libitum*, have served his patients well. The soups are only given three times a day. Distress and tympanites caused by development of gases have never since troubled his patients in typhoid fever.

VACCINATING with steel pens is recommended by a French physician. The pens are cheap enough to allow of a fresh one being used for each operation, and thereby all danger of infection from the lancet is avoided.

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