

NURSING ECHOES.

. All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

THE fourth annual *Conversazione* of the Royal British Nurses' Association, held on the 4th at the Princes Hall, and the galleries of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, was a very grand affair, Her Royal Highness Princess Christian seemed to inspire the eleven hundred guests with boundless admiration and enthusiasm. I have never seen so many happy, interested faces under one roof, and must congratulate the Association upon the enormous success of the meeting.



FOLLOWING the acceptance by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian of the presidency of the Ladies' Committee appointed by the British Royal Commission in connection with the Chicago Exhibition, communications are at once to be opened with the Ladies' Committee in the United States. That body, which largely owes its existence to the energy of Mrs. Potter Palmer, its president, aims at having a perfect representation of every department of Woman's Work. So distinctly exclusive is the project that the exhibits will be housed in a special building erected from the designs of a lady architect. The scope of the labours of the British Ladies' Committee is very wide, and it is hoped that the result will be a collection embracing examples of every kind of usefulness in which women are peculiarly engaged, from Kindergarten lessons to Nursing. Woman's work, not their accomplishments merely, are to be the objects of display.

AMONGST the many costly and beautiful gifts which the Princess of Wales received on her birthday, last Tuesday, none was likely to be more pleasing or more acceptable to Her Royal Highness than the Nurses' offering. The gift took the form of a five-fold screen in a charming frame painted in white and gold. The screen is covered front and back with photographs of Matrons of Hospitals, Sisters, and Nurses. In the centre of the screen in front is a group of Nurses, sketched by Mr. Reginald Cleaver upon the occasion of the garden party at Marlborough House, and

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around this picture at the four corners are portraits of the Duchess of Beaufort, Countess Cadogan, Lady Rothschild, and Lady Strafford.

THE DUKE OF FIFE, who is President of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, says: "There are few charities which appeal more directly to the sympathies of parents and children than this, the oldest Hospital devoted solely to the treatment of children's diseases in the United Kingdom. During 1890, 1,415 in-patients were admitted at Great Ormond Street and at the Convalescent Branch at Highgate, while 20,600 new cases (equal to 100,000 attendances) were treated in the out-patient department. The inclemency of the past summer and autumn caused a considerable increase in the prevalence and severity of certain infantile diseases, and it may confidently be asserted that the Hospital for Sick Children has this year been the means of restoring to health, and even of saving the lives, of an unusual number of the sick children of the poor."

I REJOICE to hear that immense reforms are taking place in the Nursing department of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary. It is proposed that all candidates shall, after trial, be required to pass a preliminary examination before being officially appointed Probationer Nurses. This is a decided step in the right direction, and one which should be inaugurated in all Nursing Schools.

THE Committee of the National Health Society have made arrangements with the Guardians of the Chelsea Infirmary—whereby six candidates can be trained for one year, upon payment of a guinea a week—to qualify ladies for the work of teachers of practical nursing in rural districts. The sort of nursing required in the cottage can best be acquired in a Workhouse Infirmary Ward, and I feel sure that the scheme will be eminently successful under the able direction of Miss de Pledge.

My energetic readers, I hope, will observe that there are vacancies for Matrons at Homerton; the Torbay Hospital, Torquay; the Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton; and at West Bromwich, near Birmingham. I regret to see that the last-named institution is again in need of a Matron. The changes have been so constant during the last few years, that there is clearly a screw loose somewhere.

S. G.

NOTICE.—Messrs. Baelz and Co. respectfully invite correspondence from the members of the Nursing profession, to whom they will be happy to forward full particulars of Messrs. Loeflund and Co.'s products, and quote special terms in such cases as may be found conducive to a thorough and practical test of these "excellent preparations." 14-20, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

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