

duces to render additional pleasure to lovers of the old architecture, here so well shown in the old Abbey itself; as well as affording time to look around this quaint old town, with its many historic associations. Our return journey being by another route, we passed the Royal Gunpowder Factory, which has been in existence ever since it has been known, and is still the principal place in England where gunpowder is manufactured for the Government. Then on to Chingford Mount and old Chingford Church, the ever-favourite sketching place of our amateur lady artists, and this day was no exception to the rule, for there they sat on their camp-stools with easels in front, and brushes in hand, all busily working away; apparently unconscious of our presence, and very pretty they looked in their daintily-coloured cotton dresses, giving that spark of bright young life necessary to all the otherwise ancient and solemn surroundings.

And when you return from this delightful drive, there is still plenty of time to have a look around the immediate neighbourhood, or ramble on the outskirts of the forest, before the coming twilight warns one that this, like every happy day, has "flown."

Just a word to my readers who would also like to take this trip. The cost of the drive is only four shillings, and seats can always be secured by writing first to the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford; and the Great Eastern Railway issue excursion tickets daily from Liverpool-street Station for the small sum of thirteence return.

J. M.

NURSING ECHOES.

\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

I HEAR that the proceedings at the General Council meeting of the R.B.N.A. last Friday



were lengthy and interesting. The balance sheet showed that the Association was prospering exceedingly, and has already more than £1,200 invested as a reserve fund, and that the *Nurses' Journal* and the Register are expected to bring in further addi-

tions to the income. I hear that reference was

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made to the large number of members who delay paying their subscriptions, and that the Association had no need to "dun" them; but that a Resolution is to be proposed at the Annual Meeting with regard to those who do not pay their subscriptions. More than two years ago we pointed out in these columns the evident intention of the Association to make its membership a honour restricted carefully to the *élite* of the Nursing profession. The rapid raising of the standard, and the doubling of the subscriptions have since proved how correct was our estimate. It is unfair that those who do not pay their subscriptions to the Association should obtain the benefits provided by more self-respecting members. And as the Association is rapidly getting rich, and has, apparently, on the average, £400 a year more than it requires to carry on its work, it is clearly independent of members who give it no help.

THE question of the Badge, it seems, was definitely and finally settled. Copies of it in bronze and in silver were shown, and adopted by the meeting. Mr. Editor is trying to obtain an engraving of the design, which consists of a Maltese cross with a solid central circle. In the very centre is the imperial crown; around this are the words, "Royal British Nurses' Association," and outside this, at the four angles of the cross, are the rose, the thistle, the shamrock, and the leek. The Badge is suspended to a brooch bar, on the front of which is the motto of the Association, "Steadfast and True." It is, I hear, most tasteful and unique in its appearance. It is to be made in bronze for the Members and in silver for past or present Members of the General Council, and in gold for the President. The price of the bronze is half-a-crown, and of the silver badge half-a-guinea; and the name and roll number of the Member is to be engraved on the back of each Badge.

It is very wonderful how rapidly the subject of Registration of Nurses has been forced into publicity, and how quickly the public are recognising its great importance. While the existence and the success of the Royal British Nurses' Association is now so generally recognised that whatever any body of Nurses do, the Press generally ascribes now to the Association. An amusing example of this has just occurred. Some ladies raised a small fund to present the Princess Louise with a wedding present. We are in-

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. Loefund 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.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)