

NURSING ECHOES.

Queen Alexandra has sent the Marchioness Curzon of Kedleston a most kind letter of gratitude for the trouble she has taken in organising the magnificent Ball—to be held on "Wedding" night this week at Lansdowne House—in aid of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute. "I trust," writes Queen Alexandra, "that your splendid efforts in this good cause are receiving substantial support, and that the Institute, which is so sadly in need of funds, will largely benefit through your great kindness."

The Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family are to take part in what is sure to be a magnificent function.

The List of Prize Winners for the Missing Word Competition in connection with the recent Hospital, Nursing, and Midwifery Exhibition has been announced. We note that the pair of ward shoes presented by the Bendable Shoe Co., 72, Oxford Street, London, W., was won by Miss R. W. Turner.

Messrs. Horlick's Malted Milk Co., of Slough, gave a cheque for one guinea, won by Miss M. C. Costello; and the Nurses' modern attaché case presented by Messrs. Bell & Croyden, of Wigmore Street, was awarded to Miss E. E. R. Davies.

All the Nurses' Clubs and Hostels in London are full up this week, and extra beds are being tucked in. That comes of a Royal Wedding. Nurses are wonderful women for managing to see our National Sights.

The Mile End Board of Guardians, having ascertained that a probationer who plunged into the Regent's Canal fully dressed and saved the life of a child is in their employ, decided at a recent meeting to bring the matter under the notice of the Royal Humane Society.

Nurse Langley's brave action would not have come to their notice but for the fact that she developed pneumonia as a consequence of her plucky act, as after saving the child she hurried off without disclosing her identity. She was in consequence unable to sit for her examination, and the Guardians have arranged that she shall have a special one.

The Leicester Royal Infirmary has ranked as a first-class Nursing School since ever we can

remember, and that is from the days of Miss Burt, later translated to Guy's. We have before us the One Hundred and Fiftieth Annual Report, and it is indeed a model of what such a Report should be, of which the Duke of Rutland, K.G., who is President, has a right to be proud. The £100,000 appeal fund has been answered by actual donations amounting to date to £60,000. The Infirmary is providing a New South-West Wing to accommodate 93 patients, with glass-enclosed balconies on the south and open balconies on the west side; 66 new bedrooms for nurses, and enlargement and improvement of the Laundry. The income for the year has amounted to £62,451 17s. 6d., leaving a deficit of £2,665 18s. 1d., less by £1,326 than in 1921.

The Board acknowledges the wholehearted co-operation of the Nursing Staff, whose work, it is reported, "in view of the acute pressure on the accommodation, has been maintained at a high standard, and has added greatly to the comfort and well-being of the patients."

An extract from a Paper read by the Matron, Miss C. E. Vincent, on "Nursing," at the 150th Anniversary Celebrations, is incorporated in the Report as follows:—

"In closing this bare outline of what a Nurse's training to-day involves, I would like to emphasise what to me is a vastly important fact, viz., that Nursing, to accomplish its true aim, must ever be a vocation rather than a profession. The day on which it becomes the Nursing Profession only it will lose its soul, for its inspiration must ever be the example of One of whom we are told 'He went about doing good.' In so high a vocation it is not enough to turn out a much-taught, highly trained woman: the right personal qualities are all-important matters from the patient's point of view. True, the mind as well as the heart and hand must equally be trained in order to evolve the best type of Nurse. The general aim must be to stimulate and foster the Nurse's powers of development. At the same time we realise that the finest work is done when the 'Spirit of Service' is the energising force, and we therefore try to place first and foremost what for want of a better term I will call 'The Spirit of the Wards.' To those whose lives are spent in Hospital, this spirit is common-place. It is this spirit which creates the atmosphere of love and devotion to be found in all our Voluntary Hospitals—the feeling that the best is never too good for the patient—the whole-hearted, willing self-sacri-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)