

### Nursing Echoes.

*\*\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.*

UNTIL recently, I firmly believed in the good old adage, that virtue is its own reward; but I fear I am growing sceptical, and for this reason: Some few weeks ago I was much interested in some remarks I found in a Hospital Report which I picked up from Mr. EDITOR'S office table, and obtained his permission to comment on them, on condition that I reviewed the Report as well—in this column. Next week, he received two more Reports, with a strong request



that they should be reviewed in the "Echoes," so I was commanded so to do. The next week produced three, and the next week five, further Reports with similar requests, and the cry is, "Still they come," and now a big bundle of coloured pamphlets arrives for me, twice a week, with a request in blue pencil on each—"a short Par. on this will much oblige." And I have been obliged to strike, for as it is, Mr. EDITOR cannot find room for all the "Echoes" on Nursing matters which I gather, and if I did justice to the fast-growing pile of Reports, I should never have room for anything else. But I will do my best, and have promised to take up this department regularly, and criticise one or two Institution Reports every week.

I AM specially asked to call attention to the Santa Claus Society, the good work of which I have on a former occasion noticed at some length. The objects of the Society are not only, as its name implies, to provide useful gifts at Christmastide for Hospital and other patients—which I believe was the original idea—but also to send patients to the country either at its own expense, or by obtaining and distributing letters for Convalescent Homes amongst deserving cases, a most useful and necessary help to many of the sick poor, who are not ill enough for the Hospital and not well enough to work. The whole income of the Society for these two objects only amounts to £95, and it is really extraordinary the amount of pleasure and active good which is done with this small sum. The wants of the Society, for 1892, are thus explained:—

BAILEY'S PATENT RUBBER "COMPLEXION" BRUSH AND WASHING GLOVE is unequalled for keeping a firm, clear complexion. Its use renders the skin delightfully fresh, soft, and smooth. They are only 3s. 6d. each, and will last for years. Procurable from all Chemists, or will be sent post-free upon receipt of Postal Order by the makers, DAVID MOSELEY & SONS, 14, Aldermanbury Avenue, London, E.C.

More convalescent letters and funds for the convalescent work of the Society.

More members for the doll-dressing competitions, and more subscriptions for the working expenses of the Society.

For next Christmas, more dolls, toys, scrap-books, animals, and gifts of all kinds for children.

For women, more shawls, crossover, night-socks, hoods, or caps, cuffs, clothing of any sort, bags of work, wool and needles, fancy work, books, magazines, and pretty gifts of any kind.

For the men, games, books, magazines, shirts, ties, comforters, cuffs, muffatees, caps, writing paper and envelopes, and anything likely to please or amuse men or boys.

AND the Society last year made a new departure, and started a Home for Convalescent Children at Highgate, which, at the very moderate outlay of £137, was furnished, and at an equally small expenditure was maintained. But it will evidently cost nearly £400 a year to maintain the Home in future, so that help is urgently needed. All Nurses can testify to the need of Convalescent Homes for Children even more than for adults, and I earnestly commend the Santa Claus Society and its Home to my readers, all of whom could do something to help on its valuable work. The greatest credit is due to Miss HENRIETTA and Miss JANIE CHARLES, who started and have mainly carried on the organisation; and any further particulars respecting the Society can be obtained by writing to them at Stormont, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, N.

THE Dalrymple Home for Inebriates is doing a very useful work amongst a class which, until recent years, it was thought to be hopeless to attempt to reform. By seclusion and careful treatment, a considerable percentage are undoubtedly greatly benefitted. But the after-history of the patients who have been admitted since the Home was opened is full of significance: Doing well, 89; improved, 21; not improved, 90; insane, 3; dead, 17; not heard from, 46: total, 266. The Home owes much, if not all, of its success to the energy and devotion of its late Hon. Secretary, Dr. NORMAN KERR, to whom the whole cause of Temperance in this country is so deeply indebted. Nurses who are asked about a retreat for these sad cases cannot do better than recommend an application to be made, for full information about this excellent Home, to JOHN S.

DISPOSE OF THE DEAD AS NATURE DIRECTS.—Everyone interested in the reform of funeral abuses should read the brochure published by the London Necropolis Company. It can be had gratis of the Secretary, 2, Lancaster Place, Strand, or 188, Westminster Bridge Road.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)