

manage now is, Miss Thornton kindly sends down one of her Japanese ladies and those who like to hear about Christianity remain in the Drug Room and have a quiet lesson or talk.

One more interesting circumstance was the laying of the foundation-stone of St. Hilda's Hospital last Tuesday (May 22nd) by H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught.

The Bishop, hearing that their Royal Highnesses were expected in Japan, requested the Duchess to lay the foundation-stone, which she very graciously consented to do. Invitations were sent to all the different legations, and to about four hundred European residents and also to a large number of Japanese in Tokyo and Yokohama for April 22.

The morning was very wet, and many were the anxious minds about the afternoon; however it cleared up about noon and was a fine afternoon.

At three p.m. the Right Rev. Bishop Bickersteth took his place at the triumphal arch, which was at the entrance to the ground where the stone was to be laid, and here received his visitors. At three p.m. the Right Rev. Bishop, accompanied by the Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley, his chaplain, carrying the pastoral staff, went to meet their Royal Highnesses at the entrance, and conducted them up to the dais, which had been erected near the stone. The ceremony consisted of a special service, read by the Bishop. It was opened by the National Anthem, "God save the Queen," sung by the choir and several ladies who kindly helped. A hymn and Psalm were also sung. After the stone had been lowered into its place, two purses were presented to H.R.H. the Duchess, who laid them on the stone as a gift to the Hospital Fund. The purses were from Yokohama and Tokyo, and contained the sum of five hundred yen combined. After the ceremony a bouquet was presented to Her Royal Highness, and then she was taken by the Bishop up to St. Hilda's House, where she was received by the members and mission workers, Miss Thornton (member in charge), Nurse Grace, and Miss Snowden. The Japanese workers were Tkuchi San, Tsobe San, and Sakai San. The members were first presented to the Duchess, who shook hands with them all; afterwards the Japanese ladies were presented. The Duchess then proceeded with the Bishop to the drawing-room, which had been especially arranged for their Royal Highnesses. Here they had tea, and were much interested in the koto playing, and a Japanese song sung by the pupils in the School. The dresses of the girls were very beautiful, and made a pretty scene, blending tastefully with the flowers and plants. After tea they went to see the chapel, and then they walked down to the lawn,

where they recognised and shook hands with several who were there. Many people were presented to their Royal Highnesses, amongst whom were the Rev. J. Tmai and his wife, Tmai O Fumi San. After remaining about an hour and a-half, their Royal Highnesses entered their carriage and drove away, having expressed themselves well pleased with their entertainment.

### NURSING ECHOES.

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

"GREAT is truth, and will prevail!" This has rarely been so well exemplified as it was last Monday.



It has been an open secret for more than two years that the British Nurses' Association has been struggling to secure reform from *within* the Nursing profession, and without drawing public attention to the many and scandalous abuses which

are existent. This, doubtless, is the reason why its managers have borne so patiently, and without notice, the constant shower of abuse, the continual misrepresentation, and the interested opposition which has been made to their scheme of Registration. At least Mr. Editor infers this, because many months ago he was specially requested by them not to mention some facts which came into his possession, which clearly proved the necessity for Registration, on the ground that the Association felt certain of ultimate success, and did not wish to win it at the expense of perhaps irreparable damage to the credit of any Hospital. So, as all our readers must be aware, we have maintained a strict silence on such matters.

BUT now part of the truth is out, and more will probably follow. At the meeting of the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Hospital management, which was held last Monday, several former London Hospital Nurses were examined, and also the late Chaplain of the same Institution. Their main contention was that the Nurses were over-worked and under-fed. That is important enough to the individual, and discreditable enough to the management. But incidentally each witness mentioned *on oath*, as a fact within the personal knowledge of each, that the Hospital was in the habit of sending out Probationers as Private Nurses. We have known

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