

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



AT the Meeting of the Executive Committee held on Friday, January 5th, Her Royal Highness, the President, in the Chair, the following letter was read, which had been addressed to Her Royal Highness, the President, by Lady Clark, in response to the Resolution of Sympathy forwarded to her on behalf of Her Royal Highness and the Executive Committee:—

16, Cavendish Square,
London, W.

MADAM,—May it please your Royal Highness to allow me to express to your Royal Highness and the Executive Committee of the Royal British Nurses' Association my most sincere and grateful thanks for the very kind words of sympathy conveyed to me by your Royal Highness and the Executive Committee in my irreparable loss and deep sorrow, and also for the appreciative way in which your Royal Highness speaks of my dear husband.

I am, Madam,
Your Royal Highness'
Obedient Servant,

December 4th, 1893.

HELEN CLARK.

On the proposal of Her Royal Highness, the letter was entered on the Minutes.

The following Registered Nurses were elected Members of the Corporation:—

BOBBY, CONSTANCE.	HUNT, EDITH LOUISA.
BYLES, EMMA MARY.	LEICESTER, EVELYN MARY.
COSTER, HARRIET (<i>Matron</i>	MAKEPIECE, M. RIDLEY.
<i>of St. George's Hospital</i>).	NASH, ELIZA EMMA.
CHURCH, ADELA.	RAWSON, MARIANNE.
DAVIS, ELIZABETH.	REED, ADA MARGARET.
EARLEY, CLARA EDITH.	SHARPE, M. ANDREW.
GRAVE, MARY ELIZABETH.	WHEATLEY, LUCY JANE.

After transacting a large amount of routine business, the Committee adjourned until Wednesday, January 10th, at 5 p.m.

As announced last week, the quarterly meeting of the General Council will be held on Friday, January 12th, at 20, Hanover Square, W., at 5 p.m.

The Secretary is glad to announce that she has already received some promises of votes for the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney, for Maria van der Ben, one of the members of the Corporation, whose sad case has already been mentioned in these columns. At the last election this Nurse only needed to have a comparatively small number more votes, which it is earnestly hoped may be made up before the next election in May next. The Secretary will be glad to supply voting cards to any who may be able to help, and would again earnestly ask all members to do all they can to assist the case.

DAISY ROBINS,
Secretary and Registrar.

Elementary Anatomy.

AS APPLIED TO NURSING.

By BEDFORD FENWICK, M.D., M.R.C.P.,
Physician to The Hospital for Women.

LECTURE I.

(Continued from page 153, Volume XI.)

IN order most easily to understand our subject, it will be well to begin with the hardest tissues in the body—those which constitute what is called the skeleton, that is to say, the framework upon which all the other components of the body are overlaid. These tissues consist of cartilages which are composed of a dense firm substance popularly known as “gristle,” and of bones which are masses of cartilage hardened by being impregnated with what are called earthy salts, and which are chiefly phosphate and carbonate of lime. They are animal tissues which have become, so to speak, petrified, and when these earthy salts are extracted, as they may be by the action of acids upon the bones, a model of the bone remains which is perfectly soft and flexible, and which is then found to consist of the animal matter of which cartilage is chiefly composed, and which, chemically, is closely analogous to the constitution of gelatine. We shall see hereafter that the proportion in which its mineral and animal constituents are found in the bones at different periods of life, is of very great practical importance to us as medical men and Nurses, but for the moment I will ask you merely to note the facts I have given.

There are more than two hundred separate bones ordinarily reckoned in the human body, although the actual number of distinct fragments varies at different periods of life; many which are separate in youth, becoming united altogether as age advances. Thus, for example, there are originally thirty-three separate parts in the vertebral or spinal column, and the upper twenty-four of these usually remain distinct and separate throughout life, but the twenty-fifth to the twenty-ninth unite in early life into one great bone, which is called the sacrum, and the four remaining vertebræ usually unite to form the coccyx or rudimentary tail. Again, in childhood, the skull contains twenty-two separate bones, but in grown-up people a number of these have coalesced. Twenty-four ribs form the walls of the chest cavity, twelve on either side, and these are connected directly or indirectly by costal cartilages with the centre or breast bone. In the bones which form the shoulder there are two always distinguishable, the scapula or blade bone, and the clavicle or collar bone. The pelvis or hip bones consist of two separate parts, called the “innominate” in the adult, but in childhood each of these is separable into three—the pubis, the ischium, and the ilium. Finally there are thirty bones in each of the arms, and counting the patella or kneecap there are the same number in each of the legs.

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