

agement by the Hospital Wardens, Matron, or Superintendent. For the guidance of those interested in the question as to why constant complaints arise against public institutions, I will cite one instance in my own experience. Its value for the public lies in its absolute truth. I spent fifteen hours in the Accident Ward of one of New York's best Hospitals, by the bedside of a child who had been run over."

* * *

"THE greatest sympathy was felt in the case, and all the resources of the Hospital were called into requisition. The sufferer was placed upon the only vacant bed in the sudden accident Ward, and surrounded by some six or eight young Students, the House-Surgeon apparently in command. By the light of a tallow candle they made the examination, and squabbled a good deal over it. One of them plumped himself down several times upon the bed, but desisted upon my remarking that had he ever suffered he would probably be more careful. After the examination had been conducted to their satisfaction (their comments having been made without the slightest regard to the fact that the patient was perfectly conscious and that his mother was in attendance), they withdrew, first laughing and then squabbling, but principally interested in a jocular conversation with a bright looking Nurse."

* * *

"I SUPPOSE my looks betrayed a little astonishment, as when they had left the Ward the House-Surgeon (a refined and intelligent young man, to whom I owe a deep debt of acknowledgment for unvarying courtesy during the night that followed) came to me and said, 'I hope you will excuse our roughness here; the fact is, *we are not accustomed to patients of your class.* I have spoken to the Nurse, and she will be quieter in the future.' I replied to the effect that I imagined patients of all classes felt much alike. We settled down to a night of anxiety, in anticipation of amputation on the morrow. The patient was perfectly conscious; my own concern was to shield him as much as possible from the distressing sights and sounds inseparable from a crowded Ward."

* * *

"ONE instance of my care will suffice. I spent my time in *picking bed-bugs off the pillow and mattress* before he should see them. The Night Orderly stood for some minutes watching me. Then he said apologetically: 'This 'ere bed ain't been slept in a great while. 'Tis the hot bricks brings 'em out (it was a frosty night in November); but, you see, we don't often have gentlefolks here!' Even in that hour of anxiety I could not suppress a smile. Are only gentle-

folks worthy of quiet and the absence of vermin? At six o'clock the Night Nurse, leaving the Ward, withdrew the hot bricks, and no others were brought until after eight o'clock, when the Visiting Surgeon made his rounds. It was a very cold morning, and the patient was chilly. These are very simple facts. The question is, who was to blame for them? I could multiply them, but it is not necessary. They suffice to point the moral: *It is the things for which no one is responsible that render our Institutions a reproach to our intelligence.*" S. G.

HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

REPORTS OF INSTITUTIONS, ETC., COMMUNICATED AND COLLECTED.

COLONEL DUNCAN, R.A., C.B., M.P.

It is with the deepest possible regret that we have to announce the death of this gentleman, who endeared himself to everyone whom he came in contact with—enemies he had none. His excellent and far-reaching labours, in connection with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of whom he was rightly termed "the father," will not easily be forgotten by those interested in ambulance work. We should be greatly wanting in proper respect if we did not here acknowledge our *personal* indebtedness to him, and our appreciation of the unflinching courtesy and kindness which we have experienced at his hands on more than one occasion. Gifted, honourable, liberal, and manly, he had the ring of the true metal in his nature, and his loss will be keenly felt by a large circle of friends and admirers.—EDITOR.

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THE Sanitary Institute, Parkes Museum, 74a, Margaret Street, W.—At an Examination held November 8 and 9, seventy-four Candidates presented themselves—fifteen as Local Surveyors, and fifty-nine as Inspectors of Nuisances. The questions were set to be answered in writing on the 8th, and the Candidates were examined *viva voce* on the 9th. The following Candidates were certified to be competent, as regards their Sanitary Knowledge, to discharge the duties of Local Surveyor: Charles Bunten, William Cooper, A. P. I. Cotterell, William Henry Stucke, Harold Swan, John Henry Swainson; and the following Candidates were certified as competent to discharge the duties of Inspector of Nuisances: Albert E. Adams, B. W. Baillie, John Baldock, Horace B. Benjamin, William Thomas Bovey, Samuel Buist, Arthur Butterworth, Anthony

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