

her care for her aged parent's comfort. She cut her sausage sandwiches in the smallest of slices, carefully putting the crusts on her own plate, sugared her tea, and spoke cheerfully to her; although, when the dear old lady was not looking at her, I caught more than one tender glance of daughterly anxiety scanning the withered features. The mother seemed perfectly content and cheerful in her daughter's care, and her best Christmas present was, I am sure, that daughter's presence; nor did the well known fact that this was in all probability her last Christmas on earth, rob her of her peace of mind.

The snow was falling heavily when we drove away from the Hospital, but the wind had abated, and our progress through the shrouded forest was very beautiful. My friend was pleased with the success of the Sisters' Christmas treat, and, in the pride of possessing their friendship, related anecdotes of their goodness and self-sacrifice all the way home.

"You cannot tell," she said, "how gentle and wise they are with the poor incurables. Did you notice the inscription over the portal? It is what they strive to make a reality to them in their darkened lives. 'There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God.'"

LENA MOLLETT.

THE BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

THE opinions of the Medical press about this Association were thus expressed last week:—

"On Friday, the 7th instant, the Grosvenor Gallery was the scene of a festivity, unique of its kind, and most interesting. The British Nurses celebrated the first anniversary of their Association by a *Conversazione*, at which were gathered Nurses from all parts of the United Kingdom, each wearing the uniform of her Hospital, and with these mingled many well-known members of the Medical profession, with their wives and daughters, and many of the lay public, friends of the Nurses, or their invited guests. The guests were received by Mr. Savory, acting by command of H.R.H. Princess Christian, in her unavoidable absence, and Miss C. J. Wood, one of the honorary secretaries of the Association. Among the names announced were those of the Lord Chancellor and Lady Halsbury, Theresa Countess of Shrewsbury, Lady Hamilton Gordon, Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock, Sir Sydney Waterlow, Sir Edward Sieveking, Sir Alfred Garrod, the Hon. Mrs. Stuart Wortley, Mr. and Mrs. Jeune, Dr. and Mrs. Priestley, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Ralli, Mr. Ford North, Mr.

Thomas Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Meiggs, Dr. and Mrs. Edis, Dr. and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Jones, of Guy's Hospital; Miss Stewart, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Miss Beachcroft, of Lincoln County Hospital; Miss Cureton, of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge; Miss Medill, of St. Mary's Hospital; Miss Lumsden, of Aberdeen Infirmary; and many other Matrons from the London and Provincial Hospitals, with about six hundred Sisters and Nurses, in all numbering about one thousand guests. One of the most pleasing features of the evening was the opportunity afforded to Nurses trained in the same Hospitals, but scattered by their work in all directions, to meet on common ground and renew old recollections; it was eminently a social evening, and was also very felicitous in bringing the two professions into unofficial intercourse. Besides the Pastel Exhibition, which was a treat in itself, a varied musical programme had been provided by the kindness of friends, in which such names as Mrs. Stanley Stubbs, Mrs. Hancock, Madame Amaury, Mr. J. Robertson, and Mr. Dykes, were a guarantee as to the high order of music performed for the enjoyment of the Nurses and their friends; and then Mr. Corney Grain gave one of his inimitable musical sketches, which was thoroughly appreciated by his audience. In one of the galleries there was a small exhibition of Nursing appliances, sent from St. Bartholomew's, King's College, Charing Cross, Royal Free, Victoria, and Sick Children's Hospitals, also from Messrs. Maw and Son, and Messrs. Allen. Some of the splints and antiseptic dressings showed a marked advance in the neatness and finish of trained work in Hospitals, and there were many evidences of the care and thought now given to the comfort of the sick in the articles exhibited on the tables. Victoria Hospital exhibited a very handy Ward dressing-stand, and King's College showed an operating table that could be adjusted to any height, shape, or position; both these articles, we understand, owe their special features to the Lady Superintendents of the Institutions. Messrs. Maw and Son exhibited some improved medicine measures, which were marked so distinctly as to be easily read in a dim light; they also had some very good-shaped dressing trays, an improved feeding-bottle, and many other useful adjuncts for Nurses. Messrs. Allen exhibited their kettles, and a serviceable little model of the arrangement of a hot-air or vapour bath in bed. There was also a model of a bed with a movable frame for raising the patient; this, we believe, was the contrivance of a lady. The Metropolitan and National Nursing Association exhibited a very compact and useful Nurses' bag for district work, and we also noticed some fracture splints

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