

or emergency), a form of application and guarantee, which can be obtained from the Manager, must be filled in.

Telegrams and letters, which should state nature of illness, age and sex of patient, must be addressed "Oakfield," Forest Hill, S.E.

Arrangements may be made, if circumstances permit, to accommodate in the house a friend or relative of a patient.

BATHS.—There is every convenience for hot, cold, douche, vapour, electric, &c., and pine baths.

MASSAGE.—Treatment carried out by a Resident Masseuse (from the Staff of the Etablissement d'Aix les Bains), specially recommended by Dr. Brachet.

Infectious cases not admitted.

MEDICAL REFERENCES.—Sir Joseph Lister, F.R.S., Surgeon Extraordinary to H.M. The Queen; R. J. Godlee, Esq., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to Brompton Hospital for Consumption, and University College Hospital—Consulting Surgeon to the North Eastern Hospital for Children; Dr. Symes Thompson, Senior Physician to Brompton Hospital for Consumption; Dr. Bartley, A.M.D.; Dr. Brachet, Dr. Brandt, Dr. Brigham, Dr. Galton, Dr. Jack, Dr. Macpherson, Dr. A. Morison, G. C. Parnell, Esq., and Dr. Smyth.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

SIR THEODORE MARTIN contributes to the December number of *Blackwood* the following lines addressed "To the Empress Frederick, on her arriving in England, 19th November, 1888":—

When England sent thee forth, a joyous bride,
A prayer went through the land, that on thy head
Might all best blessings bounteously be shed,
And his, the lover-husband by thy side!
And England marked with ever-growing pride,
As onwards still the years full-freighted sped,
How wrought in both the grace of worth inbred,
To noblest acts and purposes allied.

With eyes of longing, not undimmed by tears,
England now greets thee, desolate and lone,
Heart-stricken, widowed of the two-fold crown
Of love and empire; and the grief endears,
Remembering all the cherished hopes o'erthrown,
When at their height thy heart's lord was struck down.

* * *

The Queen says:—The Countess of Meath's scheme of giving light employment to the old men and women in Infirmary Wards of Workhouses continues to spread. The excellent result on the spirits of the inmates of having their fingers and minds employed in the manufacture of light fancy work can scarcely be over-estimated. Lady Meath gives £30 in the purchase of mate-

rials to the Workhouse, the Guardians of which will allow the old folk to busy themselves, who have hitherto been condemned by age or by infirmity to remain inactive. Lack of occupation to many whose whole life has been spent in action adds terribly to the depression of infirmity. By the Brabazon employment scheme, knitting, netting, crochet-work, fret-work, wood-carving, and numerous other light occupations have been introduced into the "idle room" of a number of Workhouses. Committees of ladies, of the Central Committee of which Miss Blanche Medhurst is the active Hon. Secretary, spread the beneficent influence of Lady Meath's scheme. Everywhere the work is carried on by Lady Visitors, distributing the necessary materials, teaching how to use them when necessary, cheering and encouraging the workers. We read now of blind old folk cheerily wielding their knitting needles, of bedridden invalids spending their once dreary hours in wood-carving, reading, rearing flowers in pots. There are a variety of occupations provided for various tastes and aptitudes; and the ladies who superintend the scheme often give pretty tokens of their interest in the old folk in the shape of pictures put up on the once bare walls, of a cage full of birds, and boxes full of flowers enlivening the Wards. Among Lady Meath's good works must be ranked high this scheme for helping forlorn lives to end in the peaceful dignity of congenial occupation.

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MRS. OSCAR WILDE lately delivered a lecture, entitled, "Clothed, and in our Right Minds." Gentlemen were on this occasion excluded. Lady Harberton, who took the chair, expressed, in a few words, her sense of the importance of adopting a rational form of dress, and instanced several of the drawbacks of fashionable costume. Mrs. Oscar Wilde then addressed the meeting. The clothing of the human race was, she said, a serious subject, and particularly the clothing of the women, as upon them the care and training of the next generation depended. The disadvantages of the present style of feminine dress were manifold, but the prevailing defect was tightness. The bodice was tight, and so were the sleeves. The skirt was fastened tightly round the waist, and was then tied back so as to prevent all freedom of movement. Another fault was weight, skirts being for the most part heavily laden with trimmings of beads, braiding, and flounces. The undergarments, which were too numerous, should be cut on the dual principle. The wearing of tightly-laced, heavily-boned corsets was also condemned, though Mrs. Wilde at the same time recommended that growing girls should wear a slight woollen stay, and for children a close-fitting under-

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