

### OUR INSTITUTIONS:

#### A RECORD OF THEIR OBJECTS AND WORK.

NORTHLANDS, NORTH STREET, OLD WANDSWORTH, SURREY.

THIS Home was established some twenty-four years ago. It was begun originally by Mrs. Rutley, the house being commodious, and the rooms in it large and airy, and particularly suited for the requirements of invalids, having a shrubbery and carriage-drive in the front, and a large, old-fashioned garden in the rear. It is very pleasantly situated, being



almost within its own grounds. The Home is entirely of a private character, and patients enjoy the same privacy as they would in their own houses.

The inmates consist chiefly of ladies suffering from paralysis, epilepsy, nervous diseases, &c., and the milder forms of mental weakness, which can seldom be efficiently treated at the patients' own homes. Ladies suffering from dipsomania are also received, and a marked degree of success has been obtained in these cases. All kinds of chronic cases are received, but not any are taken of a contagious nature. Ladies also are received who merely require rest or a change of air.

The ladies take outdoor exercise under suitable supervision, the surrounding neighbourhood being open and healthy. They also take exercise in the grounds.

After a time it was found that one house was not sufficiently large to contain the number of ladies whose friends applied for admission into the Home, and then the house adjoining the original one was taken. Both houses are usually full, although the sleeping apartments will contain twenty ladies. The Home is very conveniently situated, being near to Wandsworth Station and the tramway terminus, and a short distance from Clapham Junction. It is about six miles from the Metropolis, on the London and South-Western Railway, and can be readily reached from either Waterloo or Victoria Stations.

Wandsworth is a cheerful little town, and the

Home is near to Wandsworth Common, within a walk of Putney Heath, and a short drive from Richmond, Wimbledon, Merton and other pleasant localities. The climate of Wandsworth is healthy, judging from the venerable ages attained by many of its inhabitants. The Home itself is favourably situated, being sheltered from the east wind.

The terms of the Home are very moderate, being from £50 per annum, according to the nature of the case and the accommodation desired, it being considered that these terms will bring the Home within the reach of ladies of moderate means, who require not only the comforts of home, but also more care and attention than they could otherwise obtain.

The diet is good and varied, and the ladies' appetites are studied in every possible way. Many ladies remain under Mrs. Rutley's care for years together. It is her great desire that the ladies resident at "Northlands" should look upon the Home as really a "home" in the true sense of the word, where their comfort and well-being are studied, and where they can be as happy as it is possible for invalids to be. Family worship is conducted both at morning and evening; there is a service on Sundays for those who are too ill to attend the church, which is only a short distance from the Home, and there is also a service one evening during the week.

The first lady received in the "Home" was one suffering greatly from the sad disease of epilepsy. She was a handsome girl of twenty years of age, born to a good position in life, but whose bright prospects were entirely marred by her terrible affliction. When free from the attacks, she was a nice lovable girl. She remained in the Home for some years, until she was released from all pain and suffering. Though it is twenty years since she passed away, her memory is still held in remembrance at Northlands.

For some time, a little boy, of nine years of age, was resident at Northlands. He also suffered from the same sad disease of epilepsy. It may be thought that this was but a dull home for a child with no companions of his own age, but he was of such a sweet, lovable disposition that he soon endeared himself to every one in the Home, and was the pet and playmate of all who knew him. Nature, who had deprived him of so much enjoyment in this life, had given him in compensation a most precious gift, viz., the gift of music. He had a sweet little voice, and on the winter afternoons, in the gloaming, before the lights were brought, little Walter used to sit down on the rug in front of the fire and sing in his clear, childish, but sweet voice,

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