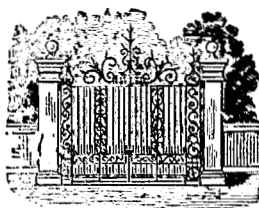


pavilion style, and pleasant to look at, cheerful, bright and pretty, inside and out, from whatever point you may see it, either by sunlight or moonlight, it is picturesque. In every part of the building the *means* of ventilation is everything that could be desired, though some chilly Nurses would fain not avail themselves to the full of such advantages; so frequently one is amazed in ordinary weather to see a very small amount of open window in some wards. Ventilation is not a strong point with most colonials. The wards are long, containing twenty-four beds each, and adjoining are two smaller ones with four beds each, these are paying wards. Any patient who can, pays even a very small sum towards the maintenance of the Hospital, and in the small wards they pay 30s. per week, which just covers their expenses in Hospital. The food of the Nurses at both the Melbourne and the Alfred Hospital is very good. The breakfast at the former consists of porridge and milk, tea, coffee, bread, and fresh butter, and hot meat every morning but Sunday, and then cold corned beef and tomato sauce. Dinner, a different meat every day, consisting of roast or boiled meat joints, stews, always of fresh cooked meat, meat pies or puddings, and always two vegetables, sweet pudding, tart or fruit pies or pudding every day. Tea consists of tea, white and brown bread, fresh butter, and a sweet of some kind every evening. Supper, bread and butter, and milk. The Melbourne Hospital Nurses' diet is very much the same. The Catholics have fish for dinner on Friday, and such Protestants as care for it also. Of course there are grumblers who will tell outsiders that the Hospital Nurses' diet in any of the Hospitals is past description for badness. Very wisely the Matrons only reply to such untruthfulness is "come at *any* meal and see for yourself, how good it is." (The Matrons dine with the Nurses).

The Homœopathic Hospital built off the St. Kilda Road, is not very pretty as to its architecture, and one would think St. Kilda Road a noisy, dusty part to choose for a Hospital, but once go inside the gates of its well kept little garden, and go through its charming wards, and no one will ever think of anything than "how perfect it is," being in fact one of the prettiest, most artistic, and thoroughly kept Hospitals I was ever in, and the ventilation just delightful. The wards are well lighted, containing twenty-one beds, off these are some small single wards for private paying patients. The Hospital has only been built about nine years, so that its newness has hardly worn off, but it is quite modern in every respect. I was much struck with the Tobin's ventilators, which were so artistically painted by some of the Nurses and some kind lady friends. The patients at the Homœopathic, though having no large grounds to wander in, are in the happy possession of lovely wide verandahs, with abundance of flourishing healthy plants and flowers in pots and tubs, as well as singing and talking birds to amuse them. The education of the Homœopathic Nurses is, I understand, entirely in the hands of the doctors. The sitting-room *and library* are very nice indeed, the best I have seen in any of the Melbourne Hospitals. In writing about the Melbourne Hospitals and Nursing generally, I have only taken the three leading Hospitals as examples, beside these, there are the Hospital for Sick Children in Carlton, where good teaching is given. The Eye and Ear Hospital in Melbourne, The Women's Hospital in Carlton, St. Vincents (small), General Hospital in Victoria Parade, and lastly the Hospital for Incurables at Heldelbury.

## Outside the Gates.



THE Indian troops for service in Egypt have already left Bombay. It is thought that they will so much better endure the very trying summer heat than could troops fresh from England. One of the chief dangers to all engaged in the Soudan arises from lung diseases, such as pneumonia and pleurisy—a danger further increased by the liability to sudden chills when overheated.

The great event in Europe at present is the forthcoming coronation of the Czar, taking place on Tuesday next. The ceremonial will be on a grand scale, and will be most impressive. Few, of course, will have an opportunity of seeing it. The ceremony will begin at the steps of the cathedral in Moscow, when the Emperor and Empress will kiss the cross, and receive the holy water which will be presented to them by the priests.

The so-called Metropolitan of St. Petersburg, whose position corresponds to our Archbishop of Canterbury, invites the Emperor to recite the Creed, after which he will be invested by two Archbishops, who help him to don the Imperial mantle. After receiving the pontifical blessing, the Czar will order the crown to be brought to him. This is brought by an officer, and carried on a cushion to the Archbishop, who presents it to the Emperor, who places it on his own head. From other cushions the Archbishop takes the sceptre and globe, and hands them to the Czar, who, after a moment's delay, returns them to the cushions, and then calls the Empress, who comes and kneels before him. Raising the crown from his own head, he just touches her temples with it, and puts it back on his head. The next thing is that the Emperor, with another golden and jewelled diadem, crowns the Empress, and robes her in an Imperial mantle, with the collar of the St. Andrew order. She then rises and goes to her own throne beside that of her consort. A Mass is then celebrated, after which the Emperor and the Empress are anointed, and the Emperor is "received within the holy gates," the Empress standing without—for no woman, not even an Empress, may enter, ever, the Sanctuary.

This will be a particularly galling moment to the poor young Empress, who is well known to hold modern views as to woman's position, and will therefore by no means appreciate having to stand—like a leper—outside, lest she might by the fact of her womanhood defile the Sanctuary.

The Executive of the Transvaal Republic has decided that the capital sentence passed on Colonel Rhodes, Messrs. Phillips, Farrar and Hammond shall be commuted to 15 years' imprisonment. Some hope is entertained that these sentences may be modified. No decision has yet been come to with regard to the remaining prisoners.

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