

A Tribute to Sister Marion.

A RECEPTION was held at the London Homœopathic Hospital, on Thursday, 29th ult., to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Sister Marion's charge of Barton ward, and was made the occasion for the medical staff, the Nursing staff, and the directors of the Hospital to testify their appreciation of the services she has rendered them in the care of her patients, in the training of the Nurses, and in maintaining a high standard of Hospital ethics. The reception was held in Barton ward, which was tastefully decorated with a profusion of flowers, and the electric light, usually brilliant, was softly shaded for the evening. The visitors were welcomed by Miss Brew, the Matron, and by Sister Marion, who received warm congratulations on all sides as well as more substantial offerings. Some of the gifts presented were on view, but by no means all. A handsome dressing-bag in crocodile leather, with silver-capped fittings and monograms, was from the Matron and Nurses. A silver afternoon tea-kettle and stand was from the medical staff, and gifts of jewellery were given by some of the directors, and a brooch with a commemorative design from the family after whom Barton Ward is named, and a charming cruet stand from the male and female servants. A handsome fur-lined cloak, a silver inkstand, silver butter-dish, and card-cases containing bank-notes were also amongst the presents.

The visitors included the medical and surgical staffs, directors and visitors, Matrons and Nurses, from other Hospitals, personal friends and the clergy from the neighbourhood, amongst whom was Father Russell of St. Albans.

The Nursing appliances of the ward were much admired, the large glass screen sheltering the entrance, Sister Marion's many inventions, especially the tracheotomy table, which has been further improved by layers of white velvet lining, on which are sewn elastic loops to keep the instruments passed through them in place. Tea, coffee, and angel cakes were dispensed by the Nurses, and by convalescent little girls, who were specially attentive to their favourites—one clergyman being proffered more cake than it would have been wise for a Church Congress to consume. The cots were all full, and the little occupants in their prettily-worked gowns and decorated beds, were admired, and played with to their heart's content, and only one of the children was seriously ill. Four tiny babies filled the cradles, one hapless little thing, six weeks old, and weighing only four and a half pounds, had a family history typical of Hospital life. It was the tenth baby; eight previous children had died, the ninth was rescued in Barton Ward, and the mother naturally brought

her last one to see what could be done for it—for the time being it was steadily sucking prepared milk out of a hygienic feeding bottle to make up for its deficient *avoirdupois*.

After a thoroughly delightful afternoon, the visitors dispersed, unanimously wishing Sister Marion a golden commemoration of her charge in the London Homœopathic Hospital.

Lady Guardians.

WE are glad to observe that Mrs. Wyndham, of the Tiverton Board, is working most energetically for Nursing reform in the Workhouse, and we sincerely hope, for the well-being of the sick in that Institution, that her very sensible suggestions will be adopted, when she brings the matter forward in January. Mrs. Wyndham wants trained Nurses on day and night duty, and gives examples of the results of the present lack of trained supervision during the night which should convince the most unprogressive guardian. On one occasion, she went into one of the wards and found there was considerable friction between some of the inmates because a woman, who was accustomed to have fits in the night, had got out of bed and very much disturbed the other old inmates, and had put on the clothes of one of them. All the patients were up in arms. Another case in point was that on her visit she found two women with scratched faces, apparently the result of a fight. We agree with Mrs. Wyndham that such disorganisation could not continue under the supervision of a trained Nurse.

The New Journalism.

THE Press is frequently supplied by the Editor of the *Hospital* with suggestions concerning journalistic etiquette; but appears curiously oblivious of the value of advice on such a subject emanating from the Stock Exchange. In these columns, we have on various occasions been compelled to criticize his interference with professional matters, and by quoting various delightful instances have proved from his own columns why we and others decline to accept him as an expert upon Nursing matters. We are, therefore, by no means surprised to find that the *Councillor*, a very well-informed publication, has questioned the journalistic methods of Mr. H. C. Burdett for attacking Mr. Rutherglen's Superannuation Act in his paper, and suppressing the letter of explanation sent by that gentleman. It will be interesting to Nurses to note that this amateurish and unfair conduct of a newspaper controversy is not the sole prerogative of the *Nurses' Journal*.

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