

an average stay of more than ten days. Besides this, it will be remembered that the physician in charge of St. Matthew's Hospital has also four beds in the Women's Hospital (St. Peter's), where thirty-seven in-patients have been treated during the first nine months of the year."

Dr. F. B. Malcolm writes:—

"Compared with the Chinese, the Koreans are clean, and there is consequently less sickness and disease amongst them. The habitual filthiness, however, of the Korean is serious enough to warrant greater attention being paid to the inculcation of habits of cleanliness amongst the patients whilst they are in hospital.

"The exclusion of opium from the country by the Government is a great blessing to the people, whose intellects and physical energies are not impaired by the drug, which has so baneful an effect upon the people of China. Of this many examples might be given did space permit.

"In Corea I have not seen, or been called upon to attend, nor have I even heard of, a case of opium poisoning."

The following extracts from the letters of one of the Sisters will be of interest, as showing something of the climate of this little-known country:—

"We are having a late spring, owing to drought. Now there have been two days of soft rain, with three days' sunshine between them, and the trees and flowers are bursting into bloom—peaches, pears, cherries, and apricots, which all display more flowers than fruit. The little valleys in the hills are rosy with azaleas, and all the fields edged with a golden blossom something like broom.

"You would be astonished at the exuberance of growth here; the flowers that bear the rains become gigantic—zinnias as large as small dahlias, and from four feet high, of every shade. The hospital garden, with the morning sun, is better for flowers than ours, and the sweet peas, coreopsis, verbena, etc., are as good as the zinnias.

"We are using the old hospital now for quite a new departure. The new superintendent of police asked if we could take in two old blind women he found in a state of utter destitution. I went to see one of them, who was living in a hole in the ground, with a few rice sacks for a roof. She was simply crouching like a dog, could not stand or lie in her shelter, had no possibility of fire—though the frost was severe—and only chance food from passers by. I had her brought in at once; and when No. 2, who is older and more destitute, took possession of the hole, she too was sent to us, and they are quite happy, in a warm room, with warm clothes, mattresses and blankets. Possibly, when the warm weather comes they may get restless, and wish for the excitement of begging."

The Hospital World.

LONDON FEVER HOSPITAL, LIVERPOOL ROAD.

THE London Fever Hospital has recently added several blocks of buildings to the original hospital, and very charming they are. On arriving at the hospital I was taken first to the Nurses' Home,

where I found Sister Fletcher, who had kindly volunteered to show me the diphtheria wards of which she has charge. The home is painted a pretty primrose colour, with dados and doors of a soft shade of green, and the effect is most pleasing and harmonious. Here are Sister Fletcher's sitting room and bedroom, quite away from her wards, the sitting room being papered with a pretty green paper, and looking on to the pleasant grounds which surround the hospital. The new buildings consist of an isolation block, into which any cases, about which there is any doubt as to the nature of the disease, are sent until the complaint has more fully declared itself, and four wards which are at present used for diphtheria or measles, although there is some suggestion that one or more wards may eventually be devoted to enteric cases. The walls of the wards are of glazed bricks, which have a most cleanly appearance. The floors are tessellated, a mat being placed by the side of each bed. All corners and angles are rounded, so that it must be difficult for germs to find a resting place. The bedsteads are of iron, with wire-woven mattresses, and besides lockers, bed tables with india-rubber castors, and specially designed by Dr. Hopwood, the Medical Superintendent, are provided for the patients. The general effect, of the wards, with their central tables and Teale's stoves, adorned with flowers, ferns, and palms, and brightened with screens with tasteful chintz covers, is exceedingly pretty, in addition to their being as clean and fresh, as new paint, and soap and water, can make them. Besides these excellences, behind each bed is fixed an electric light, and a more thoughtful arrangement, for book-loving patients, during the long hours of convalescence, it is difficult to imagine. Altogether the London Fever Hospital must be a pleasant place in which to be ill. The bathrooms, which participate in the general cleanliness, are fitted with copper baths. The effect of these is delightful, but reminiscences of my own probationer days floated into my mind, when I was first introduced to a zinc bath which it was my duty to keep clean, and I wondered whether I ought to sit in the bath and polish the sides, and then stand on one hand and polish the bottom with the other, or what was to be done; and I felt sympathetic with the probationers at the London Fever Hospital, and very glad that copper baths were not in general use twelve years ago.

An exceedingly nice arrangement for spatulas must be noted. Many spatulas are of course required during a round in a diphtheria ward, and the sister here starts with a copper mug, containing a solution of formalin. The special point about the mug is that it has a silver-plated rim which is hung round with spatulas. As each one is used it is dropped into the formalin, and at the end of the round all are boiled before being used again.

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