

The Royal Hospital for Women and Children, Waterloo Bridge Road, closed the year with a debt of £1030 to its bankers owing to a necessary outlay of £1000 in sanitary and other works having been occasioned. On the motion of the Lord Mayor at the annual court of governors a resolution was adopted that the institution had strong and peculiar claims on the City, and that a subscription list should at once be opened to free it from debt.

The Hamilton Association for Providing Trained Male Nurses has recently issued its annual report. We observe that it states that "a good training school in connection with a large general hospital remains a desideratum." Miss Hamilton, who was the founder of the Association, was anxious to establish such a school, and several hospitals were approached with this end in view, but the managers declined to give facilities for training, or to allow the Association, at its own expense, to provide for the nursing of a small men's ward. It is indeed difficult to know where male nurses in this country can obtain adequate training, as the arrangements for training orderlies in the army are notoriously unsatisfactory.

It has been decided to close the infectious ward at the Children's Hospital, Pendlebury, and to send infectious cases for the future to Monsall. It is hoped that sufficient funds may be forthcoming to open the ward for the reception of general cases. Mr. V. K. Armitage pleads for "a little less sympathy and a little more cash" from the public of Manchester.

A disease which is now claiming some fifty victims daily in India is known by the name of the "Black Blister." Until more details are known about it it is impossible for experts to make a definite pronouncement as to its nature. It is considered probable that it is a new form of plague, though some authorities think that it may be a malignant type of small-pox.

During the past year the sum of £15,000 has been raised by the people of Portsmouth for the building of the new block of the Royal Portsmouth Hospital. It is hoped that the new building will be ready for occupation at the end of the current year.

The New Cottage Hospital, at Accrington, which has now been completed at a cost of £7700, was recently opened by Mr. Williamson Lee, Mayor of Accrington. The hospital contains sixteen beds, and is conveniently arranged and equipped, considerable trouble having been taken to construct and furnish the hospital according to the most approved modern methods.

Several hundreds of the sufferers in the recent typhoid epidemic at Maidstone decided, at a private meeting, held last week, to bring a combined action against the water company to obtain compensation for the losses which they have sustained. The company had expressed their willingness to make a grant of £3000 as compensation on conditions which the consumers could not accept.

A question of considerable importance was recently raised in the Westminster Police Court, when Mr. Muir Mackenzie, barrister, applied for a summons

against Mr. William Mansell Collins for falsely assuming a medical title. Mr. Muir Mackenzie stated that although Mr. Collins's name had been erased from the *Medical Register* he continued to practise and to use titles implying that he was a registered practitioner. Mr. Sheil declined to grant the summons on the ground that there was nothing compulsory about registration if Mr. Collins possessed the necessary qualification. The erasure of his name from the *Register* would not make him any the less an M.D. if he had taken that degree.

We are glad to observe that Mr. Hedderwick, M.P., interrogated Lord George Hamilton concerning the use of Dum-Dum bullets in the Indian campaign. Lord George replied that he believed these barbarous bullets were "not opposed to international law and the customs of war." This is a sad admission from a Minister of "Christian England."

The sum of £400, which was required to complete the endowment fund of a free bed in the Victoria Ward of the Foreign Hospital at Nice, has now been received.

The Phonendoscope is a new apparatus of Dr. Bianchi of the University of Parma, which enables a surgeon to trace distinctly the precise form and position of the viscera in the trunk. It does so with more precision than the Röntgen rays, and it requires no expensive electric apparatus. It is, in fact, a species of stethoscope.

"Never was the taunt of the professional incompetency of the British Army Medical Officers more thoroughly and effectually vindicated than in the present war in the North-West Frontier of India," says the *Indian Medical Record*. "The surgical emergencies of the struggle were immense, and the demands on the operative skill of the Army Medical Staff were equally so. Capital operations of the severest type have been performed by the hundred on the battle-field and in the moveable camps, and so perfect has been the equipment and so harmoniously have the medical units fitted into every emergency, that there has not been a single hitch during the whole campaign. The sick and wounded have been attended to admirably, and the results of the surgical work on the field have been brilliantly successful. Every case of amputation of limbs has proved a success. Not a single septic difficulty has been found in the whole history of the campaign. These facts speak volumes to the credit of our A. M. S. Officers and to their hard-working local staff, the Military Assistant Surgeons. We understand that the great French military medical expert, who was deputed to observe and to criticise the working of the British system of military medical equipment in India, and who has seen the whole scheme in active order on the frontier, has pronounced the most favourable opinions on our army medical organization. It is, he says, infinitely superior to anything else in the world. This opinion has been fully endorsed by a Japanese expert also. Unquestionably the Army Medical Staff has fully vindicated its professional honour in such a manner as to silence the hostile and envious criticisms of the authorities at the War Office, who so grudgingly concede the pressing reforms of which this excellent service stands so much in need."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)