

Lord and Lady Aberdeen and the Bishop of Ottawa. We hear that the nurses looked as bright and happy as if they were off on a holiday.

What are Christian nurses? At the half-yearly meeting of the Presbyterian Home Mission Committee, in Toronto, a deputation of Presbyterian ladies waited on the committee and urged that Christian-trained nurses should be sent to the Klondike. A committee was appointed to consider the subject. Surely these good people do not mean to intimate that nurses of their sect alone are Christians. We presume not, as a meeting of the Presbyterian ministers and Presbyterian ladies of the city was held later, for the purpose of discussing with her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen the question of having the sympathetic co-operation of the nurses of the Victorian Order with the missionary nurses which the Church proposes sending to Klondike.

THE question was thoroughly discussed, and it seemed to be the unanimous opinion of the meeting that while willing to work with the Victorian nurses, it was not advisable that those of the Church be under their control. A resolution was passed recommending to the Home Mission Committee that they should advocate sympathetic co-operation between the nurses sent out by the Home Mission Committee and those sent out on behalf of the Victorian Order. It was also agreed that it would be well not to have any overlapping, and that the nurses of the two orders be not sent to the same point.

THE Rev. R. M. Dickey, the Presbyterian missionary at Skagway, Canada, who has done such splendid work during the winter, starting a Union Church, where all demoninations meet for worship, and erecting a temporary hospital, has written urging the great and pressing need for nurses, thanking the Victorian Order for its prompt action, and speaking of the epidemics already beginning, and saying: "The field is so vast and the need likely to be so great that one sees openings at every point."

THE beautiful new Nurses' Home in connection with the General Hospital at Montreal, is now in occupation by the nurses of that institution. It was greatly needed, and will be much appreciated we have no doubt.

We hear that fever is rampant in Pieterberg, in South Africa, chiefly amongst young men, for whom no nursing accommodation is available, and trained nurses are urgently needed. In epidemics how warmly are nurses welcomed. We seem to hear less of their little peculiarities and faults at these times.

Well Merited Thanks.

MISS ANNIE PLOWMAN, who acted as Matron and Superintendent of Nursing at Maidstone during the terrible epidemic of typhoid fever, has lately received the following gratifying letter from the Mayor of that town. Miss Plowman was trained and certificated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and has been Matron of Monsall Fever Hospital for six years.

Maidstone, *March*, 1898.

DEAR MISS PLOWMAN.—I have very great pleasure in testifying to the excellent work you have carried out in Maidstone during our recent terrible epidemic. You came to the town at the very commencement of the outbreak, and as superintendent of the nursing staff and temporary hospitals, the organisation and work which you had to undertake was very large, amounting as it did to the management and superintendence for six months of, in all, ten emergency hospitals, containing 400 beds and a staff of about 140 nurses for district and hospital work. I feel sure that it is greatly due to the excellent organisation of the nursing staff, and the splendid work they did under your direction, that the epidemic was overcome with so small a death rate. You can rest assured that I have expressed not only my own feelings, but those of every member of the Corporation. You are welcome to make use of this letter in any way you may think proper.

I remain, yours very truly,
JOSEPH BARKER, Mayor.

View Day at Barts.

ON Wednesday last the interesting old custom of Reviewing the Hospital took place at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, when the treasurer and matron and such governors as please make an official tour of the wards, every one of which is beautifully decorated with flowers, and presents an exquisitely bright and speckless appearance. In olden days this ceremony celebrated the completion of spring cleaning—every nook and corner having been turned out. The ceremony on "View Day" is still conducted on traditional lines, which are eminently interesting, if somewhat obsolete. For instance, the treasurer and matron enter a ward and seat themselves at a centre table, surrounded by governors and the medical and nursing staffs, the treasurer then solemnly asks the medical officer if he is satisfied with the nursing staff, to which he invariably replies, "More than satisfied." Then the matron, sister, and sometimes a patient are interrogated as to their opinions on matters in general—when a most liberal "buttering" all round results. After the officials have left the wards, visitors and friends flock through, and this year they were unanimous that *La France* roses and white lilac, artistically grouped in pale green grasses, pink pelargoniums, and white campanulas, with a touch of graceful smilax, made the most charming and effective decoration.

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