

The Hospital World.

**THE HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.
OPENING OF THE NURSES' HOME.**

A LARGE number of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Birmingham Homœopathic Hospital on Monday last, on the occasion of the opening of the extension of the Nurses' Home. Among those present were Mr. R. L. Impey (chairman of the General Committee); Dr. and Mrs. Gibbs Blake; Mrs. George Cadbury; Dr. and Mrs. John Craig; Miss Martineau; Dr. and Mrs. Huxley; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tyndall; Mr. Shirley Smith; General Phelps (chairman of the House Committee); Mrs. Sargant; Miss Southall; etc., etc.

After inspecting the Home, and partaking of tea, the visitors listened to an excellent musical entertainment, kindly provided by the Misses Clayworth. A song, "Happy Days," exquisitely sung by Miss Ivens, with a violin obligato by Miss Hopkins, the audience fully appreciated.

Mr. R. L. Impey explained to the visitors that the Home which was built at the rear of the main building, some years ago, was intended for an isolation block; it, however, was never used for that purpose, and was unoccupied until about three years ago, when it was furnished for the use of the nurses. The furniture consists of a wash-hand stand and dressing table combined, with a marble top and large swing looking glass, well fitted with drawers and a cupboard; a three-foot wardrobe and a chair, the wood chosen by the Committee being black American walnut. The landings and staircase, as well as the nurses' bed-rooms, are covered with cork carpet, thus rendering the place noiseless. The sitting-room was much admired, its quaint old-fashioned fireplace with a high chimney-piece of oak, and terra cotta brick work attracts the eye at once, it looks so cheery; the room is lighted with one window, an immense bay, which is hung with cottage curtains of ivory alpaca — an excellent material, by the way, for window curtains. The walls are hung with a handsome green paper, the frieze and paint being ivory. The whole is warmed up by a thick Axminster carpet, in shades of Indian red; while the pictures, piano, and a good supply of easy chairs, render the room comfortable and homelike to a degree seldom attained in an institution, and judging from the merry faces of the nurses, as they flitted amongst the guests in their trim uniform, one could well imagine the keen interest, and even pride, they took in their temporary "Home"; an interest no doubt fostered by the happy atmosphere which surrounds them under the wise and kindly régime of their capable and clever Matron, Miss Tamar Bean, who possesses the respect and trust of all her nurses.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



Inn Road, W.C., for a copy of the paper.

Hospital Saturday is to take place on October 15th, and this year the practice of street collecting is to be discontinued. All particulars regarding Hospital Saturday will be found in an excellent little penny magazine which has just been published on Hospital Saturday and medical charities, and all those who wish to assist this work should apply to the secretary of the Fund, 54, Gray's

The Sanitary Congress was held this week in Birmingham, and we hope to give a report of its proceedings next week.

We are not surprised to find *The London Hospital Journal* in a jubilant frame of mind over the great alterations and improvements to take place in the remodelling of the old hospital, and we notice with pleasure that thought for the sick poor in the dense East End is the first consideration of the present House Committee.

Last week we drew attention to the calm indifference of the Middlesex Hospital management in closing the whole institution for two entire months this summer, to the sick poor in its neighbourhood. How different are the arrangements of Mr. Sydney Holland.

Pending the alterations in the London Hospital building, operations are laying waste the garden, and there is in process of erection a temporary set of wards containing in all some 98 beds, together with the necessary operating rooms—these are to accommodate the patients who will have to be removed from the various wards while the latter are reconstructed—so that there is to be no diminution of beds available for the poor sick people around the London.

Old London Nurses will be interested to learn from the *Gazette* that George Ward is to be entirely reconstructed, and part of it is to be divided up into smaller rooms for various purposes. "Mary," too, is to undergo radical changes, and will then be given over to surgical beds for children, who will be moved entirely from "Queen" and "Beatrice." The latter two wards will be adapted to receive obstetric cases now in "Crossman," and extra medical beds for women.

"Richmond" and "Devonshire," too, will no longer exist in their present condition, whilst "Rachel" and "Currie" are also to undergo minor alterations. It is to accommodate the patients of these various wards that the iron building is being put up in the garden.

Another important alteration is the destruction of the spinal wall now existent in so many wards as, for instance, "Mellish." These walls are to be done away with throughout the hospital, and will be replaced by a partition about seven feet in height, thus admitting of thorough cross ventilation,

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