

THE organization of a Nursing Department is directed by the Committee of Management, and every detail of its arrangement ought to be known at "head-quarters." There is absolutely no excuse for Committees feigning ignorance of the working of an institution for which they are responsible. But we know for a fact that many men accept responsibility on Hospital Committees, and "no further meddle therein." Such men require superseding by more conscientious persons.

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WE quite agree with "Justice" that working as housemaids in the Nursing Home of a hospital is no part of a nurse's duty. To make nurses responsible for the cleanliness of their own bedrooms, really results, in the majority of cases, in these apartments remaining dirty and untidy—and, therefore, unsanitary. There is plenty of manual work inseparable from a nurse's duty to her patients in the ward, and the Home should be a place for rest and recreation, and not for menial work. Such work may, under certain circumstances, become the last straw which breaks down the physical health of women already strained mentally and physically to their uttermost capacity. But no improvement will take place until our Hospital Committees, and many Matrons, realise that nursing should be a profession for educated women, and the curriculum of training organised to attain this desirable end.

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WE regret to record the death from plague of Nurse Pecha, at Vienna, this being now the third fatal case which has occurred. Nurse Pecha was only twenty-two years of age, and was of unusual beauty. She was the daughter of a railway labourer in Bohemia, and the youngest of nine children. When acting as chambermaid at a Carlsbad hotel an invalid Irish gentleman took a fancy to her, and asked her to go to Ireland as his nurse. She acted in this capacity for some time, and then she and her employer agreed that she must have professional training, and she accordingly returned to Vienna to gain the required knowledge. She was a reserve nurse, and in this capacity was summoned to attend the man Barisch, from whom she caught the terrible disease.

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It is hoped that the danger of the spread of the plague has now been definitely averted. The *Allegemeines Krankenhaus*, where the first victim died on the 18th of last month has now been re-opened, and the doctors and patients who had been strictly confined to the hospital were allowed to leave it last Sunday after thorough disinfection. The isolation of persons suspected of plague is still continued, however, at the Franz Josef Epidemic Hospital, and it would seem that so long as any suspected cases are isolated, that the danger is not entirely over.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



AMONG later donations received by the Lord Mayor for the endowment of the Home of Rest for Poor Women from London, which a munificent merchant is building at Bognor as a memorial to the late Duchess of Teck, are the following:—Mr. Edward Huth, £5 5s.; Mrs. Henry Stevenson, £5; the Hon. Sidney Greville, £5; Mrs. Carnegie, £5; Lady Glass, £5; Mr. Daniel Watney, £21; the Hon. Caroline Jervis, £5 5s.; Rev. H. B. and Mrs. Allen, £5; Rev. C. and Mrs. McAusland, £10 10s.; Lord and Lady John Cecil, £5 5s.; and "E. J.," £10. The fund will be closed at the end of the month, only about £20 being required to complete the permanent endowment of £10,000.

Princess Henry of Battenberg visited Aberdeen last week, and opened a bazaar in aid of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, an institution in which the Queen has always evinced the warmest interest. Her Majesty not only gave her name as one of the patrons of the bazaar, but sent a messenger direct from Balmoral with a gift of two haunches of venison for the game stall. The visit of the Princess Henry was marked by a popular demonstration, and the principal streets were gaily decorated. She was escorted to the Music Hall, where the bazaar was held, by the civic dignitaries, and was received by the chairman and directors of the hospital and the medical staff. Her Royal Highness made a number of purchases, including articles of clothing for distribution among poor people.

We are glad to learn that a substantial sum was realised. The hospital is much indebted to Miss Lumsden, the Lady Superintendent, and the Nursing Staff, for the interest and labour they have bestowed in helping to make the bazaar a financial success.

On Friday, the 28th ult., Mr. John Murray, vice-president of the Committee of Management of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, presided at a meeting at the hospital at which the subscribers to the Lewis Carroll Memorial Cot presented to the committee a cheque for £1,000, "to endow the cot for ever." There was a large and fashionable attendance, among those present being Miss E. L. Dodgson ("Lewis Carroll's" sister), Mr. Wilfred Dodgson, Mrs. Fuller (secretary), Miss Audrey Fuller (the originator of the scheme). In the absence of the Duke of Fife, the cheque was handed over to the chairman by Mr. James Tait Black, the treasurer. In thanking the subscribers, the chairman announced that a friend had just given a set of "Alice" books to go with the cot, which was placed in the "Alice" Ward. Among the recently-elected life governors were Mrs. Hargreaves (the original Alice) and Sir John Tenniel.

The troopship *Jelunga*, which arrived at Southampton on Friday, brought a large batch of wounded men from the Soudan. When the vessel reached the transport shed every facility was offered to the friends to see the patients, who were conveyed to the hospital on special invalid coaches.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)