

### Annotations.

#### HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

Sunday last was observed in the Churches and Chapels of the Metropolis as Hospital Sunday, being the 29th Anniversary of the institution of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, founded through the influence of Sir Sydney Waterlow and the late Canon Miller, of Greenwich. Among the preachers were the Bishops of Hereford, Stepney, and Kensington, Archdeacons Sinclair and Wilberforce, the Dean of Westminster, Canons C. J. Thompson, Hensley, Henson, Ainger, MacCormick, Page-Roberts, Prebendaries Blomfield, Jackson, Teignmouth-Shore, Ridgeway, and Eardley-Wilmot.

At St. Paul's Cathedral in the morning, when the Lord Mayor attended in State, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the sermon was preached by Canon E. E. Holmes, who, taking for his text St. Luke xiii. 4, described the London hospitals as London's guest houses, the staff being the host, the matron the hostess, and the nurses the daughters of the house caring for the patients who were the guests. It was the will of London that her guests should be treated royally; she willed them in their hour of need to have the best of everything, the best of physicians, of surgeons, of chaplains, of nurses, of medicines, and dressings. It was London's habit to pay for her guests, but last year the bill for her hospitals came to nearly half a million sterling, and she had not paid the bill, £46,000 was still owing for last year's expenditure. To-day 1,500 beds in London were vacant solely for want of money. Not because London was stingy or indifferent, but because she did not stop to think. Never before had the public a better security that their money was well and wisely spent; the hospitals were less abused by the well-to-do, and reckless expenditure was largely a thing of the past. If it were said—as it was said—that there was a certain extravagance in the London hospitals, they were not careful to deny it. If one broke a bone, or burst a vein, one would hear with very mixed feelings that the messenger for the doctor had taken a penny 'bus to save the expense of a shilling cab fare. So, where a man was bleeding to death, red-tape was not the ligature used in the wards of an English hospital. The extravagance was not that of recklessness, but of liberality. There would be a feeling of horror if a patient lacked anything, but they must consider what the

supply of everything that was necessary and of the best meant. Last year the meat bill of the London Hospital was £5,000, the milk bill £3,000, and the drug bill £5,000, while cotton-wool cost nearly £400.

#### BRITISH CONGRESS ON TUBERCULOSIS.

The arrangements for the British Congress on Tuberculosis are now well in hand, and the week promises to be a great success. The principal railway companies in Great Britain have consented to issue return tickets at a single fare and a quarter, available from the Saturday before to the day after the Congress, Sunday being a *dies non*.

On the evening of Monday, July 22nd, the opening day, a reception will be held by the Organizing Committee in the Queen's Hall, when the Royal Engineers' band will be in attendance. On Tuesday, July 23rd, Professor Koch will speak at a public meeting in St. James' Hall, and the same evening a reception will be held at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor. On Wednesday, July 24th, Professor Brouardel will speak at a public meeting at St. James' Hall, and later in the afternoon the Ladies' Reception Committee will give a garden party in the Royal Botanic Society's Gardens. On Thursday, July 25th, the Earl and Countess of Derby will give a reception, and on Friday, July 26th, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis will give a river party at Richmond, and on Saturday, July 27th, excursions will be arranged to Sanatoria, and the Duke of Northumberland will give a garden party at Syon. Another interesting announcement is that during the Congress some of the largest houses in London having interesting collections of pictures will be thrown open to visitors.

#### MEDDLESOME MATTY.

An important meeting of the Committee of the Nurses' Co-operation took place last week, at which the condition of affairs was, we hear, discussed with some animation. Of course, Sir Henry Burdett was there playing, we presume, his usual rôle of Meddlesome Matty. There are rumours that the nurses have been advised to resign their connexion with the Co-operation, and to start a new society under the superintendence of Miss Amy Hughes. We hope the nurses realize that if they accede to this suggestion that they will leave very substantial benefits behind, in the form of their beautiful and commodious Home, and a considerable sum in invested funds.

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