

other similar donations to make up the required amount, which is earnestly needed by the institution.

Sir Peter Walker, Bart., of Osmaston Manor, has generously offered to supply to the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary a complete apparatus for the treatment of lupus by the Finsen light. He has also suggested that the apartment in which the apparatus will be located should be considered as a memorial to the late Queen Victoria. The Bishop of Liverpool has consented to preach the anniversary sermons on behalf of the Infirmary next November.

A generous bequest from an anonymous donor was reported at the meeting of the weekly board of the Lincoln County Hospital on Monday. The gift was made in the following terms:—"To the treasurer for the time being of the Lincoln County Hospital, to be by him applied for some special objects in aid of the said hospital, which may be determined upon by the governors or weekly board of the said hospital after conference by them with Mr. Charles Brook, the sum of £1,000."

On May 12th the Prince and Princess of Wales will open the new buildings of the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital and Convalescent Home at Rhyl. This institution is one of the best known of its kind in the kingdom, and is the only children's hospital at the seaside on the North Wales coast.

The number of patients who yearly pass through the hospital is about 700, and they come from all parts of the country. In the Lady Superintendent (Miss Vizard) the committee have had a lady who has devoted her life to the furthering of the interests of the hospital, and not only has she given her services, but has also contributed largely to the funds.

It is intended that purses containing the sum of £5 shall be presented to the Princess on the occasion of her visit, and by this means the committee hope to realise a very substantial sum. So unselfish are the officers, nurses, and members of the committee that it has been decided that each one present at the opening ceremony shall pay one guinea for his or her seat.

The Annual Report of the East End Mothers' Home, 394, Commercial Road, shows that 198 women were admitted to the Home during the past year; 196 children were born alive, and five were stillborn. In the out-patient department 329 patients were attended, 330 children were born alive, and five were stillborn.

The Annual Meeting will take place at the Home on Friday, May 9th, when the Bishop of Stepney and the Rev. Harry Woolcombe of Oxford House, Bethnal Green, will be among the speakers. At 4 p.m., before the Meeting, the Home will be open for inspection.

Sir Robert Harvey, of Palace Gate and Dundridge, Totnes, has endowed another cot in memory of his son Alfred at the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street, at the cost of £1,000.

Our Foreign Letter.

IN AN ITALIAN HOSPITAL.

(More Pages from an Englishwoman's diary.)

(Continued from page 256.)



December 17th.
—It is getting increasingly difficult to collect the "infermiere-inservienti" for the lecture. The Chief told me he thought they feared displeas-

ing someone in authority. It seems our attempts at progress meet with a dull opposition in some mysterious quarter of the administration. Progress entails extra expenditure; hence the opposition we continually encounter. The Chief and the Principessa intend, however, to keep quietly to our programme; giving the old staff the opportunity of improvement, and *gradually* replacing them by new material, which we will train from the beginning.

The patients are very satisfactory, however. I think I am taming a phthisical boy who was absolutely unruly till a few nights ago when spraying his throat was ordered. I held the light whilst a young doctor began to spray; the boy coughed straight in his face, whereon he threw down the bottle, and flew to soak his head and face in sublimate solution. I continued therefore the spraying (a faithful convalescent holding the light), keeping out of the way of his cough. The poor boy let me continue, though the tears poured down his cheeks, and afterwards remarked, "E piu coraggiosa Lei, Signora."

Another boy is touchingly patient, phthisical also, he calls me constantly, and tonight, after bathing and powdering his many protruding points (which, I trust, will retain their skin intact), he took my hand and kissed it, looking at me and saying in his poor soundless voice "La voglio bene assai, assai." Poor laddie, he is going very fast; they have tried injections of guaiacol in the lung tissue contiguous to cavity, but nothing has been gained.

December 18th.—These male nurses are terrible—two only are really to be trusted as far as I can find out. The doctors do their best, but it is impossible for them to be always in the ward. Last night a miserable chronic tubercular case in Sala 1 almost committed suicide. He had been told that that he could not be kept in hospital six months this year, as he had been last, as these wards were not for chronic cases. During the night he got a blunt knife and tried to cut his throat. The fact was not discovered till 7, ergo, the infermiere must have been asleep. The Chief put on a special nurse to guard lest he repeated the attempt; as the poor creature kept saying "I will not starve like a dog in the street, and I have nowhere to go; better far to die." I went back to the ward quite late, just before leaving, 8 o'clock, and found one infermiere at the doctor's table writing a letter for a convalescent, and the special infermiere and the other ward one—nowhere! Someone evidently ran in the kitchen to tell them I had come back, (I usually leave earlier) for they both appeared, masticating

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