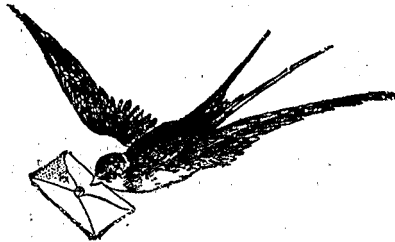


Our Foreign Letter.

CAIRO'S ITALIAN HOSPITAL.



The Cairo Italians are to be congratulated on their new hospital, which is an unquestionably beautiful and imposing building in the Abassieh quarter,

well back from the road, facing the Mokattam hills, with the desert between them. The position is, therefore, not only a distinctly healthy one, but it is also built on the most hygienic lines, and arranged on the pavilion system connected by covered passages. The front block contains the administrative offices, special wards for paying patients, and the operating theatre with its anæsthetic room and its anteroom for dressings and sterilising utensils, which are of the most perfect and up-to-date designs. The walls are coated with an enamelled surface, which can be washed down frequently, and for which a hydrant is attached to a hot-water plug. The doors are perfectly flat, quite devoid of all ledges, and seem to form part of the walls; in fact, every aseptic and antiseptic precaution has been seen to, and every invention of every nation has been put to use, even to Shanks' washing-basin pedal action. Above the administrative offices in the upper floor are the residents' quarters, which command a beautiful view of Cairo and the desert—in fact, no healthier and more beautiful site could have been chosen.

The general wards are in two other blocks, some containing fourteen beds and others smaller numbers, whilst others, again, are meant for special cases and for those who have undergone major operations.

In all there are fifty beds only for the present, but the hospital is so planned that it will easily be enlarged; in fact, this is what is expected, for there are some 16,000 Italian residents in Cairo, and it is a very natural thing that they should all prefer going to their hospital to be treated by their own doctors and nursed by their own countrywomen.

H.M. the King of Italy has given a most generous donation, and the rest has been contributed by the large number of Cairo residents, many of whom are very wealthy, and who have shown a very right spirit in preferring to be independent of others, and to have the pleasure of administering their own hospital. This is the spirit which Lord Cromer tried to rouse in the English-speaking colonies (British and American) in Cairo, and which caused the erection of the Anglo-American hospital. I must not forget to say that the kitchen, laundry, and mortuary are detached from the building; that the laundry and mortuary should be so is very obvious, but one wonders how it works to have the kitchen at a distance from the hospital. This is what struck one in the plan of the Anglo-American Hospital, too; but things work themselves out differently from what they appear to visitors, and this method may be the right one in Egypt, where everything is so totally different from Europe. Here the everlasting sun takes the place of rain and fogs, and the eternal sand and desert that of turf, grass moors, and forests.

EDLA WORTABET.

Preparations, Inventions, &c.

THE CORSET "MAILLOT."

We commend to the attention of our readers the Corset "Maillot," which is supplied by Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, of Wigmore Street, and which is illustrated in the accompanying sketch. The corset is made of woven silk, which gives support to the figure, and is at the same time very comfortable. The price is 35s. 6d. Another corset of the same kind, higher in the bust and longer on the hips, is priced at 52s. 6d. A woven corselet and hip protector, which may be substituted for corsets, is much appreciated by invalids, as



well as by those indulging in outdoor exercises and sports. Each article may be had separately at 25s., or combined for three guineas. In the same woven silk all kinds of belts, may also be obtained, including babies' belts and belts and corsets for children from two to sixteen years of age. Any surgical corsets which may be required can also be made.

Messrs. Debenham and Freebody, who are indefatigable in their arrangements for the convenience of the public—a fact which has added not a little to the popularity of their establishment—have a separate private corset department, which is under the management of Mademoiselle Silva, who has just returned from Paris with the newest models and shapes.

Every woman knows how much her appearance depends upon the shape and fit of her corsets, and that it is little use spending money on costly gowns if this essential has not received due consideration. Many of our readers will, therefore, we feel sure, be glad to know of the corset department at Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)