in a room looking over a lovely land, neat old ladies busy with the needle. In the bright dormitories, from every window of which exquisite views could be seen; one, Mary by name —an inmate of fifty years—was taking her rest; close by, "Lilliewhite," with extraordinary ardour, was making taps and sinks to shine. Lilliewhite told me she just loved cleaning, and, indeed, I could well believe it, to judge from results; and when I told her that my greatest treat as a child was permission to polish the nursery grate, Lilliewhite was filled with joy and gave me her blessing. Then I saw, carefully kept in a cupboard, Sunday dresses and bonnets, the latter to be worn over the pretty white caps, to prevent "colds." Each child's dress was of different cut and material, to relieve them of the "livery" taint. All these little points proved the largehearted sympathy brought to bear by the Matron on every detail of the work. Nothing of the "pauper brat" is permitted to injure the humanity of the little inmates at Hambledon-good citizens all-if Mr. and Mrs. Howard have their way; and surely this is the only righteous way.

I saw many other departments, and learnt much in this well-ordered poorhouse (the sunless tramp cells are not to my taste), and brought away a renewed conviction that there is wide scope in our workhouses for the best work of the best workers. Mothers' work is finest work; nursing but a part of it. Let more would-be mothers, who are childless and have time to spare, give consideration to it.

E. G. F.

A Jewish Hospital.

The new Victoria Memorial Jewish Hospital in Manchester will be completed this autumn, and, it is hoped, will be opened by a member of the Rothschild family. Such a hospital is most desirable where there is a considerable Jewish population, because amongst devout Jews the scrupulous observance of Jewish law in the preparation of food is a religious obligation, and in ordinary hospitals where Jews are received in any numbers a special kitchen for the supply of "Kosher" food is a necessity. Many Jews, also, do not understand English, and so are at a disadvantage in being unable fully to explain their symptoms to doctors and nurses. That the Jews of Manchester feel the desirability of a hospital where there will be a resident Jewish surgeon and Jewish nurses is evidenced by the fact that, while there are only 5,000 Jewish householders in Manchester, 2,000 Jewish working men have bound themselves to give a weekly contribution to the new hospital.

The benefits of the hospital will not be confined to Jewish patients, but Christians also will be received. The movement will be watched with interest.

American Mursing World.

Nurses in this country will learn with regret that Miss Isabel McIsaac, at one time President of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools, has resigned the position of Superintendent of Nurses at the Illinois Training-School, Chicago. Through the professional associations with which she is connected Miss McIsaac will no doubt still keep in close touch with nursing matters.

Dr. Worcester, of Waltham, U.S.A., who is in Europe with the object of studying nursing educational methods, is paying a brief visit to London. He has been charged with this mission by the authorities of Harvard University, which, as our readers know, is establishing a Chair of Nursing, and will grant regular degrees to those who successfully pass through the prescribed curriculum. It will be remembered by those who attended the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in Berlin that Dr. Worcester was present and followed the proceedings with great interest.

Dr. Richard Cabot, addressing the tenth class to graduate from the Training-School for Nurses of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, advocated the advanced education of nurses, saying that he considered it impossible for nurses to be too thoroughly grounded in anatomy, bacteriology, and allied subjects, holding that the more thorough / their education had been, the more interesting they would find their work and the better appreciate the importance of its detail. So high does knowledge stand in Dr. Cabot's esteem that he ranks the gaining of it foremost among the pleasures of a nurse's life, for, as he truly said, the nurse who craves gratitude as a reward for her services will be very frequently disappointed; neither will those whose highest ambition is the amassing of wealth be satisfied, as no nurse can keep both a large bank account and her own self-respect. But, for those who seek knowledge, every new case means something gained, if not always from the professional standpoint, at least in a deeper insight into life and character. This, with the faithful friendship every true-hearted nurse is sure to make, and the satisfaction which ever comes in forgetting one's self for the good of others, he considers will be the highest compensations for the many hardships of a nurse's life.

It is said that the Nurses' Settlement in Richmond, Virginia, is the "Incubator" of all progressive, up-to-date, good ideas finally brought into action in that city. This, says the Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumnæ Magazine, we can well believe when we consider all the Settlement has accomplished in that direction during the short time it has existed. With the assistance of their friend and champion, Dr. Cook, they have interested the public in that

previous page next page