

The Sisters' and nurses' dining-rooms are in the Infirmary building, also the lecture room, and I was told the Guardians were most generous in providing a liberal supply of medical and nursing books, diagrams, &c., for teaching purposes.

Time sped apace, but I got a glimpse of the beautiful operating theatre and its up-to-date annexes, the orderly dispensary and kindly presiding genius, the magnificent kitchen and equally magnificent cook, and then I found myself in Miss Dwight's charming sitting-room, where, together with the Sisters, we enjoyed a sumptuous tea before bidding my many kind friends a reluctant good-bye.

On the homeward drive the wonder of it all was thankfully realised. If only Agnes Jones—that noble pioneer of trained workhouse nursing—could have been with us. Perhaps she was, who knows? Who can forget her description of Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, when, in 1865, she entered upon her work there. And the written description was as nothing to the real facts. I have heard by word of mouth from one of the doughty band of nurses who went with her from St. Thomas's Hospital to Liverpool that the horrors of that place could never be effaced from her memory—how they found the imbecile patients huddled together on straw like pigs; how the filth and stench was so appalling that they divested themselves of skirts and tucked up their petticoats to the shortest dimensions before literally sweeping out this den, which swarmed with vermin!

Agnes Jones wrote:—"I observe in all the wards the absolute want of nursing of any kind. . . . The beds are badly made, often all on one side; restless patients left uncovered, and the attention to the sick has generally to be given by the other patients. I often see them putting their medicine-bottles to their mouths without reference to time or quantity. In the surgical wards they seem to dress their own wounds."

What a change is here! What a grand result to our labours in forty short years! Women's work, remember; meritorious work, a national asset. Surely worthy of State recognition, and before long I feel sure we shall get it. E. G. F.

### A New Hospital for Toronto.

The gift of 100,000 dols. to the Toronto General Hospital by Mr. Cawthra Mulock promises to have a more far-reaching effect than was expected. The donation was made unconditionally, but, at the same time, Mr. Mulock expressed the hope that it would have the effect of giving the medical faculty of the University of Toronto a better opportunity for clinical teaching. This result is now not only probable, but it is well within the range of probability that Toronto will have a General and Emergency Hospital which will be second to none, and will be equal to the increased demands made upon it.

### Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The Queen has become an annual subscriber to the funds of the National Sanatorium for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Bournemouth.

The Committee appointed by King Edward's London Hospital Fund to inquire into the relations between the London hospitals and medical schools attached to them has not done wisely in excluding the Press.

The inquiry, as our readers may remember, was undertaken as a result of Mr. Stephen Coleridge's repeated accusations with respect to the assistance which these schools were receiving, directly or indirectly, from funds contributed by the public for hospital purposes. The accusations have been made publicly, and should be publicly met.

One has only to consult the annual reports of the Middlesex and other hospitals to conclude that thousands of pounds have been diverted to medical teaching purposes, the payment of lecturers, &c. In our opinion, such a use of charitable money is wrong. That is not to say that if the public choose to subsidise medical education by contributing to an open fund for the purpose it shall not do so. We only claim that its money shall not be used for such a purpose without its consent, and no account rendered of its expenditure.

The truth is the twelve little medical schools are not needed, and are far too costly. Medical education needs organising, and a central medical school would meet the purpose. Such a school would be of the utmost benefit to students, as they could then get the best expert teaching, instead of an unknown quantity, as they do now. It is by no means a *sine qua non* that the best men are appointed to the lectureships at our general hospitals. We have known the best excluded from very human motives.

Archdeacon Sinclair writes to state that nearly all the letters for consumption hospitals, convalescent homes, and sanatoriums in the possession of the Committee of the Hospital Sunday Fund have now been given away, whereas applications are being received daily from the clergy and ministers of the Metropolis. Dr. Sinclair therefore asks possessors of such letters to place them at the disposal of the fund.

Lady Cheylesmore, Mayoress of Westminster, has consented to open the new building of the Royal Ear Hospital in Dean Street, Soho, on Monday, December 12th, at three o'clock.

After an absence of eight months patients are now returning to "Bedlam," the famous hospital for the curable insane, Southwark. So late as the year 1770 the public were admitted to see the lunatics at one penny each, by which the hospital made about £400 per annum. Less than a century ago—in 1814—the rooms resembled dog-kennels; the female patients, chained by an arm or leg to the wall, were covered by a blanket gown only, the feet being naked, and they

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