

Mr. Andrew Barlow, a wealthy brewer and a munificent donor to Southampton charities, died on December 28th at an advanced age. His last public gift was one of £3,000 to the Royal Southampton Hospital.

Last week Alderman J. C. Gamble, in the presence of a large gathering, opened the new extension of St. Helens Hospital. The hospital has now accommodation for over 100 beds. The total cost of the extension, including the provision of the furniture, is about £23,000, of which about £5,000 remains to be raised. Alderman Gamble said that the hospital was maintained to a much larger extent by those who benefited by it than any other hospital of which he knew. Last year but one the working classes subscribed more than half the cost of working the hospital; then Colonel Pilkington promised an extra donation of £2,000 if penny-a-week subscribers would subscribe a like amount, but they subscribed nearly £2,500 extra.

The quinquenary of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh occurs this year, and steps are being taken to organise a fitting celebration of the event.

To the first number of the *Occult Review*, a monthly periodical edited by Mr. Ralph Shirley, Sir Oliver Lodge has addressed a letter in which, respecting the questions to be discussed in the magazine, he says:—"There is a widespread though largely uninstructed interest in these subjects; and inasmuch as the general bulk of the human race constitutes the sole laboratory in which the facts can be studied, it is desirable to maintain the interest and to record the facts with as much care and as little superstition as possible."

We have before us a specimen of *The Broad Way, or Westminster Hospital Gazette*. It is sparkling. Who edits it? We could wish he were on our staff. Medical and nursing journals are usually so prosy. This clever little publication convinces one that there is yet fun and frolic to be found in the embryo medical practitioner. Perhaps a trifle more reticence as to nursing matters might make for harmony.

Owing to the large number of medical men, particularly of young doctors, who have been sent to the front (85 out of 320, or 27 per cent., having left Riga alone), the Russian authorities have decided to permit lady doctors to act in the capacity of supernumerary house surgeons in all the hospitals at Odessa.

Mr. John D. Rockefeller's Christmas gift to the University of Chicago consists of a sum of 2,500,000 dols., wherewith to found a School of Engineering. He will also provide the building.

### For Hospital Economy.

The chairman of each of the sixteen large general hospitals in London has been invited by the committee of King Edward's Hospital Fund to send two representatives to a conference to be held on February 2.

The object of the conference is to discuss the form of the statistical report of expenditure to be issued this year, in order to make it as serviceable as possible towards effecting the economies suggested recently by the Prince of Wales.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



The committee of the Women's Department of King's College announces that by the kindness of friends the debt on the buildings has been removed. Special efforts are now being made to obtain money for the library and for laboratory equipment, since the

notable increase in the number of university students necessitates greater expenditure in all parts of the college.

Miss Marguerita Eagar, a lady of Irish extraction, who has recently returned from Russia after five years' service in the household of the Czar as nurse, is just now busily engaged in completing for the press a book upon her experiences and observations in Russia.

Meanwhile the enterprising interviewer has obtained interesting copy by the way. We gather from Miss Eagar's opinions that the reactionary attitude of the present Czar results from a bigoted impression that he holds the crown of Russia direct from the Diety, in trust for his son, and that it is his duty to God and his country to hand it down intact in conjunction with autocratic power. This being so, no Constitution will be granted until the moujik is sufficiently educated to demand it and, if needs be, to wrest liberty by force.

In the *Daily News* appears the following forcible little tale:—"I had a girl in my employ," says Miss Eagar, "whom one day I found in tears. 'Oh dear,' she said, 'we are all slaves in Russia.' Of course, I saw at once that she had been in company such as was dangerous for her in her position in the Palace. 'Ah!' she said, 'you do not understand. You do not have police in England.' 'Oh, don't we,' I said; 'we have police everywhere, and prisons, too, and there are generally plenty of prisoners in them.' 'But,' she said, 'I thought you made your own laws in England?' She was amazed when I told her that that was why we had police and prisoners, and that, though we made our own laws, I had never been allowed to assist, nor any other woman, and that only a few men had a direct voice."

Which, being interpreted, means that the women of the United Kingdom are of less account, politically, than the Russian moujik.

The Chinese Empress Dowager recently severely lectured Yung Luh's daughter for wearing blue mourning shoes. The enraged old lady inquired how she dared to come into her presence in mourning, and particularly when her birthday was about to be celebrated. When the bewildered young lady explained that she was in mourning for her father, the Empress Dowager replied that she was supreme, and that the mistake must never happen again.

A Chinese paper reports that in order to raise funds for army reorganising purposes the Chinese Finance Department proposes that women who offer contributions in hard cash will be rewarded with the "Star of

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