

promptly took them all out, much to the disgust of the nan-nan or Creole nurse. I nursed one young married woman and she was very good in letting me do as I wished, so I washed her over every morning with the fat old mother as audience seated on a chair near the bed and giving vent to sighs and groans at intervals, she was quite sure her daughter 'would take a bad cold and have fever,' &c., and 'in my days such things were not done.' However, I did as I wished and the patient made a good recovery.

"Sometimes we get operation cases. I have nursed three, two for abscess of the liver, which is very common here. Both died, I am sorry to say, and both were young men.

"I have been here for over three years, and in spite of the unhealthiness of the place and the trying hot season, I have kept very well so far, but it does not suit everybody.

"The work is very trying, as one has often to stand by and see the relations do badly what is the nurse's work, and it would be very easy to deteriorate quickly here if one were not fond of one's work and were not conscientious. As it is, it is impossible to do what one would wish, and a nurse to come here should possess an unlimited supply of good temper and patience. Some of the English residents are very kind to the nurses, and I have made some good friends. We have also a very nice house where we reside between our cases."

The History of Nursing.

Mrs. S. A. Tooley, who recently wrote the popular "Life of Florence Nightingale," is now engaged on a History of Nursing, which is to be published by Messrs. Bousfield & Co. in the spring. As Mrs. Tooley is not a trained nurse, it is to be hoped she will realise her limitations, as no untrained woman can possibly possess the expert knowledge to deal accurately and successfully with this question, during the present transition period of trained nursing, evolving, as it is, from an unskilled domestic avocation, into a skilled and scientific profession. Mrs. Tooley is a very pleasing writer, especially when princesses and palaces are her themes; but unless her work is of a popular kind, and does not attempt to deal with professional matters which she is not qualified to discuss, we think she would be wiser to stand aside with those "angels" whose fear is proverbial.

An expert History of Nursing is being carefully and conscientiously compiled by Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, the greatly-esteemed Superintendent of the Nurse Training School, attached to the Johns Hopkins' Hospital at Baltimore, and President of the American Federation of Nurses, a lady in whose capacity for the task her colleagues at home and abroad have entire confidence.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



At the 123rd annual meeting of the Governors of the Nottingham General Hospital, Sir Charles Seely announced that the legacy left to the institution by the late Mr. Adolf Hesse, of Nottingham, amounted to between £38,000 and £39,000. One of the conditions of the gift was that the portrait, at the age of fourteen, of Mr. Hesse's son, to whose memory the gift was devoted, should be hung in a prominent place in the hospital.

This is a quite splendid gift, well deserved, and will go far to enable the Governors to keep up the hospital, lately modernised at great cost, without constant anxiety. If hospitals are to enlist the approval of the public they must be up to date and prove that their management is efficient. We have no doubt this policy at Nottingham inspired the confidence which has resulted in this munificent legacy.

The Earl of Leicester has given £1,000 to the Sanatorium for Poor Consumptives, at Kelling, Norfolk, as a thank-offering for his recovery from a recent long illness.

At the annual general meeting of the governors of Guy's Hospital it was unanimously resolved: "That the treasurer be requested to bring to the widest possible public notice the foregoing facts in the hope that their publication would secure at an early date the further support necessary to the prosperity and well-being of Thomas Guy's great foundation."

The endeavours of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, and Co., to promote the moral, mental, and physical betterment of their people has received recognition at the Liège International Exhibition just closed. A special gold medal was conferred upon them for the "intellectual and moral development of workers."

Some 60,000 lepers are congregated in the villages surrounding Canton, and it is stated that the Rev. Father Conrady, who assisted Father Damien among the lepers at Molokai, one of the Sandwich Islands, intends settling near that city. In the leper village of Fat Fung Yun, six miles east of Canton, where Father Conrady will probably start work, there are over a thousand lepers. Although the local Government provides about 600 of these lepers with 1½d. a day from a fund, practically all are compelled to beg for their food and clothes. To do this, Reuter states, they are allowed to go to Canton, where they can be seen wandering over the same roads as other people and jostling in the crowds.

No sadder fate can befall a human being than to be tainted with leprosy. Such persons are by the nature of the disease debarred from earning a living and due provision should be made for them.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)