

which these Sisters do not possess, and which their vows prevent them obtaining. For ourselves we should have little use for those who "give up their vows," better far give up work which they cannot perform.

Some delightful jottings, quotations from the classics of our language, by "A Country G.P.," appear in *St. Bartholomew's Hospital Gazette*, and though they refer to the medical fraternity, many of them are equally applicable to nurses.

To quote:—"Lord Bacon bids us honour our profession and ornament it too. 'I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which as men, of course, do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavour themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereto' (Preface to *Maxims of the Law*)."

"Finally, let me quote the beautiful passage from R. L. Stevenson's dedication in *Underwoods*, so well known to us all. It is enough to put us on our metal:—"There are men and classes of men that stand above the common herd; the soldier, the sailor, and the shepherd not infrequently; the artist rarely, rarer the clergyman; the physician almost as a rule. He is the flower, such as it is, of our civilisation; and when that stage of man is done with, and only remembered to be marvelled at in history, he will be thought to have showed as little as any of the defects of the period, and most notably exhibited the virtues of the race. Generosity he has, such as is possible to those who practise an art, never to those who drive a trade; discretion tested by a hundred secrets, tact tried in a thousand embarrassments, and, what are more important, Herculean cheerfulness and courage. So it is that he brings air and cheer into the sick room, and often enough, though not so often as he wishes, brings healing."

Irish Nurses' Association.

On Saturday evening Dr. Peacocke, Physician, Adelaide Hospital, gave a lecture to the members of the above Association, at the Association rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin. His subject was "The Effect on Treatment of the Advance of Knowledge." The subject was one which appealed to the audience very much, and very specially were the practical hints on the administration of some therapeutic measures appreciated.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Miss Maconachie, Richmond Hospital, seconded by Miss Chadwicke, Rotunda Hospital, and conveyed to Dr. Peacocke by Miss Harding, Lady Superintendent Home for the Dying, who presided.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



On Friday, Dec. 1st, Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg, accompanied by Princess Ena, opened the beautiful new Hammersmith Infirmary, built at Wormwood Scrubbs on a fine open space of fourteen acres.

The opening ceremony took place in the Dining Hall of the workhouse close by, a building of noble proportions. The infirmary is arranged on the pavilion plan, the wards admirably designed, cheerfully decorated, with brightly-polished floors, and the domestic offices are up-to-date and commodious. In the wards, of which the ends face south, are situated sunny day rooms, an addition greatly appreciated, especially in winter time.

The wards are not yet occupied, but from the specimens of furniture in one ward, one gathered that the comfort of the inmates would be well considered. White quilted, spring bedsteads, each provided with an admirable bed table on wheels, looked eminently convenient. The maternity block is quite distinct and self-contained. It provides accommodation for twelve patients. There are two labour rooms, one of which, if necessary, can be used as a separate ward. A room for the Sister and bedrooms for three nurses are attached, so that probationers entering this infirmary of 400 beds for training will have the great additional advantage of good obstetric work.

There is a well-arranged operating theatre, and the great kitchens and laundry are fitted with all the modern appliances. The Nurses' Home contains accommodation for sixty nurses, in separate bedrooms, and when prepared for their reception will no doubt be fitted and arranged for their comfort.

In declaring the Infirmary and Workhouse open, Princess Henry expressed her pleasure with the arrangements, and hoped they would prove a great boon to the sick and suffering and the poor.

The appointment of Matron to this new institution has not yet been made, but it will be an interesting charge, and we hope a thoroughly well-trained woman may be elected to the post. The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Jenkins, by whose courtesy we were permitted to inspect the building, will, we feel sure, be most kind and helpful in organising the new nursing school.

The West Ham Hospital is to benefit by about £3,500 from the donations and receipts at the recent bazaar.

Mr. H. Raphael, J.P., the retiring president of the Derbyshire Children's Hospital, has been a very generous friend during the two years he has been in office. During the past year he has at his own expense had a terrazzo floor and tiled dado put in the large ward and thus brought it up to sanitary requirements. Mr. Raphael paid a warm tribute of praise to the work of the Matron, Miss Thorpe, and the nursing staff, at the recent annual meeting. Sir Richard Fitzherbert has been elected president.

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