

THE LADY HARDINGE HOSPITAL, BROCKENHURST.

The Lady Hardinge Hospital at Brockenhurst for wounded Indian soldiers, which is supported by the Indian Soldiers' Fund, sub-committee of the Ladies' Committee of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, of which Committee Her Majesty the Queen is President, is now in full working order, and on Saturday last a distinguished party travelled down to Brockenhurst to inspect the hospital.

Among those who visited the Hospital were Adeline Duchess of Bedford, Chairman of the Queen's Committee, the Duchess of Somerset, the Marchioness of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, the Countess of Minto, the Countess of Scarborough, Lady Jekyll, Lady Sloggett, Sir J. Hewett, Sir Claude Macdonald, Sir Havelock Charles, General Sir Alfred Gaselee, Mrs. Morant, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Colonel Wheler, Lieut.-Col. P. F. O'Connor, Mr. P. D. Agnew, and Mr. E. M. Cook, Hon. Secretaries.

They were met on their arrival at the station by a number of motor cars, kindly arranged for by Dr. Child, President of the Automobile Association, and quickly conveyed to the hospital, which consists of

a series of huts and contains 500 beds. It is beautifully situated on rising ground in the New Forest, the site having been generously presented by Mrs. Morant, of Brockenhurst Park, while the Order of St. John of Jerusalem gave £10,000 towards its equipment.

The visitors were received by Lieutenant-Colonel Perry, C.I.E., the Commanding Officer, who was formerly Principal of the Lahore Medical College, and one of the most distinguished medical men in India, Lieutenant-Colonel Meyer, Miss

McCall Anderson, R.R.C., the Matron, and other members of the medical and nursing staffs, in the central hall, in which hangs a portrait of the late Lady Hardinge, whose early and tragic death has caused so much sorrow.

The writer was amongst those who had the pleasure of being taken round the Hospital by Colonel Melville with, amongst others, Lieut.-Col. P. F. O'Connor, formerly a medical officer of the Indian Medical Service. It was pleasant to see the intense pleasure of Ressaldar Gholam Mohammed Khan, and Ressaldar Ramji Lal, native officers of the 6th Cavalry now in the hospital at Brock-

hurst at once more meeting their former officer. It was typical of the cordial relations between the British officers and their Indian subordinates and no one seeing the light on the dark faces when spoken to by one of the visitors whom they had known formerly in India could fail to realise the strong tie which unites them.

Besides the Matron the nursing staff includes Miss I. Frodsham and Miss Ryland-Smith, her assistants, and seventeen Sisters, all of whom speak Hindustani.

There are twenty wards in all, of twenty-four beds, with the usual annexes, and single wards for native officers, who looked very smart as well as warm in the beautiful dressing-gowns sent by Lady Rothschild, of dark blue cloth with

red facings, and one noticed a new use for the knitted scarves, which were ingeniously worn in more than one instance as turbans.

The charge of each sister is 50 beds, 25 in each ward, the two being separated by a corridor. Their duties consist principally of supervision, and they have two English orderlies working under them—and there are also native servants.

The wards look very bright and trim, the comfortable beds have quilts of Turkey twill which suit the dark faces above them. A few weeks ago



MISS EDITH McCALL ANDERSON, R.R.C.
Matron, Lady Hardinge Hospital.

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