

patients share a large bed-room and sitting-room, and are placed in charge of a Sister or Brother.

Gradually and naturally, the settlement acquired the character of a parish, the divisions of which were regulated by age, sex, character of disease, profession, and social status, and it became possible to give to every patient not only certain family privileges, but to restore him to that field of action he had been familiar with before his affliction, or to discover for him the occupation he was best suited for.

Eventually, all forms of industry sprang into life—farming, agriculture, horticulture. All trades were plied, properly organised in guilds, with master, workmen, and apprentices, each striving for thoroughness in his degree. The Mistress of the sewing-room or laundry became an important member of society. (One must have realised by personal experience the misery enforced idleness can inflict on a German worker, to feel what this resuscitation into active life meant for many of the patients.)

The work is profitable as well as pleasing. Among other things, almost all necessary repairs are done by the patients, and 39 entirely new dwelling houses arose either out of the proceeds of their labour, or by the actual work of their hands. In cases where recovery was hopeless, the Nurses were advised to encourage that sense of self-respect, that often seems shaken in epileptic patients, by allowing them to feel that they are "wanted." However slight the help may be they can bring to the community, whether knitting, book-binding, or weeding, it is always *their* work. Nor is the occupation necessarily manual. A young barrister of Hanover, who was obliged to become a member of the Zion's congregation, was appointed "Parish Chronicler." He worked in this capacity for 23 years, always more or less afflicted. He died recently and rests in the churchyard of the community. He is described by those who knew him as a "cheerful, eager, and interesting man." When the anniversary of any house came round, he would enter the door with a cheery greeting, chat with the House-mother or father about the history of their home, and generally conclude the discussion with some reference to the meaning and origin of the home's name. For *all* the names of the different houses of the congregation of Zion are chosen with a special purpose—often by the patients themselves. They are always biblical: Ebenezer, Nazareth, Bethsaida, Shiloah, Mamre, Bethlehem, and so on, each name being significant. Thus, "Ebenezer" was decided on by patients, because the word means "So far the Lord hath helped"; "Shiloah" (the name of a well by Jerusalem) suggests the well-spring of heavenly help. It is the name given to a home for idiot and epileptic girls. "Thyatira" is the name given to a home for epileptic painters (Acts xvi. 14): "Lydia, a seller of purple, dwelt in the City of Thyatira, which worshipped God." A settlement of agriculturists for whom a new home had to be found, now live in "Rehoboth"—"the Lord hath made room for us" (Gen. xxvi. 22).

The manner in which Herr von Bodelschwing solved a social problem with regard to his workmen is worthy of consideration. For many years it had been usual in Bielefeld to feed and often clothe distressed mechanics; etc., who were out of work and appealed for help. Twenty or thirty of these men would apply daily. After a time, it was made the rule

to require work from them in payment for the benefits conferred. Immediately, the number of applicants diminished, and it became possible to sort the grain from the chaff. Strong and able workers were now engaged to assist the epileptic workers, to execute such details of the work in hand as would be dangerous or exhausting to the patients, and, in fact, to act as a sort of active permanent body-guard.

The number of healthy, willing workmen who applied, especially during the winter-time, eventually made this arrangement impossible, and a workman's colony was the consequence.

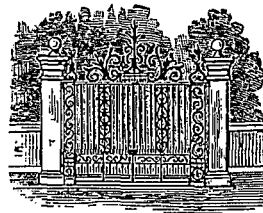
The story of 18 cured epileptic workmen emigrating with their "House-Father" through the Teutoburger Wald, and settling in a small peasant house in a barren sandy plain (formerly a sea-shore) is the preface of the workmen's colony, and dates no further back than 22nd March, 1882. Round this small nucleus gathered the important colony of "Wilhelmsdorf, called so from the date of the first settlement, the birthday of Emperor Wilhelm I. The colony has homes for epileptics and healthy workmen in separate houses. There are now about 30 workmen's colonies in Germany.

(To be continued.)

— Outside the Gates. —

WOMEN.

THE PIONEER CLUB.



Much has been heard of this now famous club. Many criticisms have been offered, and suspicion has arisen in the male mind that it is a dark and secret organisation for the suppression, painless or otherwise, of the masculine half of humanity. A visit to 22, Bruton Street, on the Tuesday afternoon, when the pioneers are "at home" to their friends; or an invitation to a Thursday evening debate, would do much to re-assure our brothers that no attempt is to be made in the direction of their total annihilation.

Nor are the pioneers grim determined women, who, axe in hand, stand ready to hew down anything or anybody standing in their path. They have their axe, but it is in the form of a pretty badge denoting membership, and this axe will be laid only at the root of that which is base and ignoble. The average pioneer is remarkably pretty and well-dressed, and the men guests appear to find her society particularly pleasant. At a recent gathering an unregenerate man remarked that he had expected to be treated as one of the weaker sex, and fanned and petted; but he found that he was called upon to use his muscles somewhat actively, in waiting on the ladies, and providing *them* with the creature comforts he had supposed would be lavished on him.

The club is bright, sunny, and beautiful. The wide hall, decorated with palms and ferns, and statuary, is a delightfully cool summer lounge; while, in the cold weather, it will serve as a "winter garden" on a small scale. The dining room is beautifully panelled with

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