

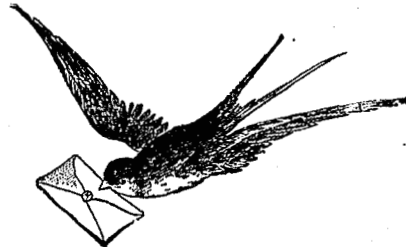
On these occasions they indulge in the delights of boating, sailing and going for steamer excursions, rambling in the woods, and are quite ready to enjoy their plentiful hot dinner in the large pavilion of the Sanitarium Villa, and even to enjoy the after-dinner speeches which the enthusiasm of the "picnic" inspires. The music, which is supplied by a good band or orchestra during these *al fresco* feasts, takes somewhat from their Arcadian character, but is none the less a source of delight to the guests. To those patients who are desirous of tasting the joy of "roughing it" a bit, opportunities are given for a few days' stay at this country villa, where they may "camp out" under canvas and get all the advantages of rustic life.

During the winter months, the building is heated by steam, and a very nearly uniform degree of heat is maintained. Medicated atmospheres are also obtained for special patients by the impregnation of certain rooms by pine balsams, and in these a certain number of hours may be spent each day. The large greenhouse attached to the Sanitarium supplies the whole building and each patient's room with flowers and plants. It is connected to the main building by a tunnel, so that in cold weather the patients may reach it without exposure to draught or chill, and may, at any time they please, transport themselves to the "tropics," and sit amid most beautiful palms and orange and banana trees. Lounges and delightful rocking chairs stand about in tempting profusion, and here the patients may enjoy these sun-baths, in the virtue of which the Americans have so much faith.

The physicians state "that it is their distinct purpose to keep the patients so thoroughly occupied that they will have no time for home-sickness, blues, self-inspection, or 'exchanging symptoms,'" often an unwholesome pastime with hospital and sanitarium patients. Everybody is kept busy "getting well."

The Institution is open, and a corps of clerks, waiters and Nurses on duty at all hours of the night, as well as during the day. A special ambulance meets any train by which a helpless or feeble patient is expected. The Sanitarium is not a money-making enterprise. It was organised in 1866 by a few persons interested in the advancement of sanitary reform and rational medicine. It was regularly incorporated as a stock company. Two years later the stockholders found the enterprise a pronounced success. As the stockholders were persons of philanthropic disposition they were easily persuaded to take such action as would relinquish all claims upon the earnings of the Institution, and make the original stock an endowment, the earnings to be perpetually used for necessary improvements, and for the treatment of the sick poor by means of a dispensary attached to the Sanitarium.

Quite recently, by the aid of a wealthy lady in Chicago, a home for orphans has been erected, large enough to accommodate 100 children. And a home has also been provided for friendless aged persons and for widows and orphans. Besides these charitable Institutions connected with the Sanitarium, several medical missionary enterprises are supported in different parts of the United States and in foreign fields. The founders claim "that the Institution is conducted in harmony with the principles of rational medicine; no hobbies, secret remedies, or empiricism, are tolerated. It is a self-supporting philanthropic Institution, conducted in a scientific manner, and in a liberal, Christian and humanitarian spirit."



## Our Foreign Letter.

FROM FRANCE.

THE Nursing world of France has reason to regard the accession of the new President with favour. Long before he was raised to the highest dignity in the land Monsieur Felix Faure and his family were practically interested in the methods and means of alleviating suffering. Madame Faure had taught her daughters to care for the cares of others, and Monsieur Faure had studied philanthropic organisation, so that, when during his recent tour he showed marked and tender interest in the suffering and helpless in Hospital, Crèche and Orphanage, he was influenced by no new thrill of kindness consequent on fresh-cut laurels, but was following the natural bent of a naturally kindly disposition.

In Havre (April 19th), at "l'Hospice Général," the President presented two of the Sisters with Medals of Honour, as a recognition of their devotion to their profession.

On his visit to the "New Hospital" of the same town, the President is reported to have taken individual interest in various cases; to have conversed kindly and sympathetically with the patients, and to have left a generous donation towards the Hospital funds. Similar details are repeated on every hand.

Wherever M. Faure can encourage a brave Sister, or a true worker in any path of life, he does so with a warm-hearted friendliness that wins enthusiastic regard.

At the institution of the "League for the Protection of Forsaken Children," one of the pupils expressed the feelings of the populace in an eloquent poem, written for the occasion by the director of the institution, M. Rémy. Without any attempt at versification, I give a literal translation of some of the lines of this poem. The sentiments expressed give a fair idea of public enthusiasm in general—an enthusiasm greatly due to M. Faure's recognised kindness of heart.

"Honour to the President, whose generous heart  
Condescends to sympathise with all those who are  
unhappy.

Here—everywhere—he knows how to relieve suffering.

Let us offer our hearts, our vows to the elect of  
France. . . ."

The Nurse of the Future will probably have a considerable curriculum mapped out for her, if moral defects continue to be studied as symptoms of physical defects with the positiveness peculiar to our century—this curious century of contrasts; of delicate investigations in psychology; of unequalled philanthropy and refined cruelty; of brutal realism and spiritualism—the latter verging on scientific lunacy (if an ignorant outsider may express the impressions culled from reports of spiritualistic meetings).

That *crime is disease*, that honesty, courage and cleanliness are qualities that "come naturally," these

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)