

looking upon the young, lovely Queen with her sympathetic voice and attractive manners. An old man, who had already been nursed in the hospital for eight long years, drew the special attention of the Queens, who spoke to him very kindly. The poor creature however, being stone deaf, did not understand a single word of all that was said to him, yet he caught its meaning by the expression of the faces of his high-ranked visitors, and when they had left him, he was so happy that tears rolled down his wrinkled cheeks. He had seen his Queen, his dear young Queen!!

Considered from an abstract point of view, there may be something ridiculous, something bombastic perhaps, in the homage paid to a Queen, who has as yet nothing done for her people, in order to deserve its love and gratitude; for the thinking and feeling mind however, this affection and admiration for the offspring of a long line of ancestors, whose lives are so closely interwoven with the history of our Dutch nation, are very touching and comprehensible. Our young Queen is a fresh rosebud, an incarnated hope for the future, educated by a noble, devoted mother. She is dear to the hearts of her people—she is the object of a feeling of honest chivalrous adoration with the pupils of the High Burgher schools, who form a kind of *guard of honour* during Her Majesty's stay in the capital of our country—her very youth and exquisite grace conspire to awake emotions of love and sympathy. And those feelings are much strengthened with all who saw the young Queen in her dealing with the sick in the Binnen-Gasthuis.

After having seen eight wards with two hundred and fifty patients, the Queen-Regent thought it advisable to put an end to the visit, fearing that it might otherwise leave a too vivid and lasting impression on the mind of her beloved child. Those patients who had not the honour of seeing the royal visitors face to face were not forgotten, the Queen-Regent left a great number of flowers for the adults, and brightly-coloured prints for the children, saying to the matron that she would be glad if Miss Ulfers would distribute these little tokens of sympathy among them in the name of Her Majesty the Queen, with many kind greetings on her part and the assurance of her sincere interest in their fate. The high visitors took leave of the matron with a kind shake of the hands, saying to the medical superintendent, Dr. Stumpff, that they were most agreeably impressed by their visit to the institution placed under his zealous care.

And now this visit belongs to the past—it is carried along by the waves of the torrents of old Time—but its remembrance is still vivid in many, many minds.

I take this occasion to inform you of the fact that the storm of indignation roused in the English nursing world by the offending insinuations in Lady Priestley's "*Nurses à la Mode*," and also by the ironical sketch of Mr. Hall Caine, has found a strong echo in our country. The accusations and reproaches involved in the above-mentioned articles have been discussed and criticised in our leading papers, and it is with the greatest sympathy and approbation that we have read the defensive answer of the Editor of the NURSING RECORD, taking valiantly the part of her cruelly offended sisters, and ex-colleagues, in the *Nineteenth Century*.

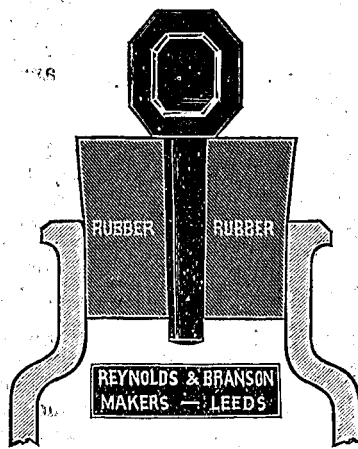
HOLLANDIA.

Amsterdam,
May, 1897.

Inventions, Preparations, &c.

AN INGENIOUS RUBBER CORK.

MR. HERBERT J. ROBSON, of Hillary Place, Leeds, has designed, and Messrs. Reynolds and Branson have manufactured for him, a rubber cork shown in the accompanying illustration



which he has found very useful in his visiting bag, and for other purposes. One of the chief reasons why a rubber cork will not hold secure is that the pressure of the air inside the bottle is greater than the pressure outside, and thus there is a tendency for the cork to be readily dislodged. As shown in the accompanying illustration, through the centre of the cork is a hole which allows the escape of air that would otherwise be compressed when the bottle is corked. The cork being *in situ*, into this hole is then plunged the glass or vulcanite plug, which not only renders the cork airtight, but which, by widening its diameter, renders it also more secure.

VALUABLE PRIZES.

WE are requested to, again, call the attention of our readers to the valuable prizes offered by Messrs. Southall Brothers and Barclay, and particulars of which have already appeared in our advertisement columns. Full particulars can be obtained by writing, *immediately*, to Messrs. Southall Brothers and Barclay, Birmingham.

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