

We should suggest that the secretaries and committees of the Special Hospitals should ask His Royal Highness to receive a deputation on the subject—when we feel sure they would enlist his sympathy for the good work they were doing.

The London Fever Hospital is unable by its financial condition to consider the rebuilding which is much needed. As this is the only public institution in London—other than the rate-supported hospitals under the control of the Metropolitan Asylums Board—where fever patients are received, and the number of cases applying for admission is increasing, the need of increased accommodation is most important; and in view of the excellent work done by this institution it is to be hoped that it will receive the additional support which it needs, and certainly merits.

Dr. White, the medical officer at Darenth Asylum, has declined to resign. The Metropolitan Asylums Board have, therefore, decided that a cheque for three months' salary be sent to him, and that his agreement with the Board shall immediately terminate.

Dr. Hughes, the Assistant Medical Officer of the Camberwell Infirmary, has also refused to send in his resignation, upon the demand of the Guardians, and has wisely demanded a Local Government Board inquiry.

The Local Government Board must be busy just now—they have before them suggestions for nursing reforms at the West Ham Infirmary.

There is an outbreak of influenza at the Darenth Asylum for Imbeciles.

The Marquis of Salisbury has contributed £100 towards the proposed County Home for nurses in Dorset.

The inquiry into the Maidstone typhoid epidemic was closed to-day. Mr. Parker, addressing the commissioners on behalf of the Corporation, submitted that there was insufficient evidence to support the charges made by the water company against the Corporation in regard to the drainage of the town, and that it was clear the water supply was the primary cause of the epidemic.

At the Annual Meeting, lately held, of the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, the votes of thanks were profuse—the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, the hon. staff, the hon. dentists, the board of management, the ladies committee, the hon. treasurer, the hon. secretary, and the hon. auditors were all thanked for their services during the past year—but as far as we can gather from the report, gratitude in Bradford is evidently superfluous, in return for the arduous and devoted services of the resident medical, nursing and domestic staffs. These workers may be "paid servants" but Bradford would be wise to recognize that ungracious masters make graceless servants, and there

are some services rendered which cannot be squared in hard cash.

How different in tone and feeling is the report of the Cornelias Hospital at Poole, prepared by Lady Wimborne, in which she says: "The medical staff remain the same, and I gladly avail myself of the opportunity to thank them sincerely for their continued support. We are also most fortunate in retaining the services of our excellent matron, who is beloved by all the patients, and the under nurses and probationers equally deserve their meed of praise."

A new department will be added to the Birmingham General Hospital as soon as the necessary apparatus can be installed. Mr. J. F. Hall-Edwards, who was the first in Birmingham to successfully experiment with the Röntgen rays and their application to surgery, has been appointed surgical photographer and radiographer to the hospital. In addition to the X-ray work, a photographic register of all important cases will be kept, a work for which Mr. Hall-Edwards, as a surgeon and an expert photographer, is specially qualified. A photographic laboratory, with the electrical apparatus necessary for work with the Röntgen rays, will be fitted up, and Mr. Hall-Edwards, who has hitherto performed this work for the hospital at home, will attend at the hospital when required.

The Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary held its annual meeting last week. While both the number of in-patients and out-patients have increased considerably during the past year, the net decrease of £253 4s. 7½d. in the total receipts from all sources was noted. This is attributed to the great demands made upon the public in connection with the Jubilee celebrations, and through depression in trade, the Indian Famine Fund, trade disputes, and other causes. It is satisfactory, therefore, to see that the Institution begins the new year with a balance in hand of £912 os. 2½d.

## The Financial Press and Sir Henry Burdett.

THIS week all the leading financial papers have expressed their opinion very plainly of the conduct of Sir Henry Burdett in his relation to the Stock Exchange. We quote the following from the *Investor's Review*:—

"THE MANAGERS OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND SIR HENRY BURDETT, K.C.B.

"We are rather sorry for Sir Henry Burdett; he has given himself away so very badly in the correspondence with the trustees and managers of the Stock Exchange which he has just published. His object in instituting this correspondence was to get these gentlemen to give him a pension, and in his argument in support of his petition he cites the settled custom in the City of London in the case of highly-placed officials of the Bank of England, the Corporation, and other wealthy bodies. But surely this is nothing to the purpose. The real question is, What was Sir Henry's contract? Recognizing, perhaps, the weak-

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