

Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, which is to take the form of a Home of Rest for Poor Women from London, are the following:—Madame de Falbe, £21; Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson, £5; Mr. Herbert Garratt (of Sydney), £5 5s.; the Dowager Marchioness of Ailsa, £10; Lord and Lady Addington, £10 10s.; the Dowager Lady Beaumont, £5; and Miss Boucherett (second contribution), £5. As, by the munificence of a donor who wishes to be anonymous, the building and furniture of a Home at Bognor have been assured, all that is now required is a sum of £11,000, the annual interest of which will provide for the maintenance of the occupants. Of this amount £9,000 has been promised, and it is hoped that the remainder will be forthcoming before the end of June, if those who have not yet subscribed will send in their contributions.

It is reported that Sir Trevor Lawrence, Treasurer of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has been selected as Chairman of the Committee of Investigation into the needs and methods of the Metropolitan Hospitals, in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. We thoroughly approve this choice; as St. Bartholomew's Hospital is financially independent, its Hon. Officers can also be quite independent and impartial. We hope that the full list of the names on the Committee will be made known to the public at an early date.

The honorary secretaries of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, yesterday, received from a lady, who requests her name to be withheld, the munificent donation of £1,000.

The Duchess of York has promised to pay a private visit to the Paddington Green Children's Hospital during June, in order to name the wards in the new building, which was opened by the late Duchess of Teck.

A meeting was held last week at the Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin, with the object of establishing a Children's Guild "to interest the children of the rich to work for the children of the poor." The Countess Cadogan has accepted the presidency of the new society, which will be known as the May-Mell Children's Guild.

It is interesting to notice that a suggestion is being made in the *British Medical Journal* by Mr. Henry Foxton Craggs, to establish an "International Blue Cross Ocean Life and Salvage Service," and that one or more of the boats specially fitted for the purpose should be attached to each squadron and fleet to act as hospital ships. Mr. Craggs points out that in the warships of the present day the internal arrangements are such as to render it almost impossible to do more than give first aid to the wounded during a battle. He proposes that boats flying the Blue Cross should enjoy the same immunity at sea as the Red Cross Ambulances are allowed in civilised warfare on land.

The United States Government has recently purchased the *s.s. Vigilancia*, which will be fully equipped as a hospital ship, and amongst other appliances will carry an X-ray apparatus. If the Hispano-American War is prolonged, and extensive hospital accommodation becomes necessary, it has been arranged that two hotels at Fort Monroe shall be taken for this purpose.

Professional Review.

"DAYDREAMS OF A DOCTOR."

THE "Daydreams of a Doctor," by C. Barlow, M.D., published by the Peter Paul Book Company, Buffalo, New York, was written in the hope of fulfilling a suggestion that "there remains to be written the simple, honest, dutiful story of an intelligent, thoughtful, every day doctor, such as will pleasantly and fitly open to laymen some true conception of the life he leads—its cares, its trials, its influences on himself and others, and its varied rewards." Truth compels me to say that Dr. Barlow must have been singularly fortunate in his acquaintances among the members of his craft. Personally, I have the greatest respect for the medical profession, for their work, their skill, their self denial, and their personality; but, in this country at least, they, in common with others of their generation, have their little foibles, we like them even the better sometimes, just because they are so human. There are no such members of the medical profession in America, however, at least if there are Dr. Barlow is unacquainted with them. His heroes, and heroines, move through his pages entirely superior to all the weaknesses of ordinary mortals, until one is almost inclined to wish that some of them would give evidence of that "touch of nature which makes the whole world kin." Our atmosphere in company with such exalted personages is just a little rarefied and somewhat difficult to breathe.

However, one forgives the author everything upon reading his uncompromising opinions upon "the woman question." Listen to them. "I believe woman to be man's equal in most, and his superior in some respects. I believe that woman was originally made of a little finer material than man. You say man was made first, and for that reason should take the first place in the world. Suppose he was; he was made from the dust of the earth, and was not woman made from his rib? She was one remove at least from the mere soil of which man was created, and is therefore more delicately organized than he . . . I would just like to know how she could cause Adam to eat an apple if she were not stronger than he—not physically, but mentally, stronger. If Adam was the superior being you seem to think him, why did he not refuse to eat the apple?" Then follow specific instances of the exceptional ability, powers, and heroism of women.

Notably there is Queen Semiramis, who lived more than 2,000 years B.C., Queen Esther, Joan of Arc, Queen Isabella of Spain, who grasped the importance of the theories of Columbus, when the King, and the great men of her time ridiculed them, and numbers of other great and true women, until we come down to our own times and Miss Frances Willard.

In the course of the book much useful information is given in a form easily assimilated, and considerable insight is gained into the hard work, the trials, and the immense responsibilities of the average doctor. The description of his mental anxiety during a severe operation is exceptionally graphic. Incidentally we are introduced to doctors of both sexes, and it is not altogether surprising that the book closes with the statement with regard to two of these "Now these ideal representatives of the general practitioner are one."
M.B.

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