

### The Hospital World.

#### HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS AT KEY WEST.

THE interest of many nurses is at present centred in the arrangements made for the care of the sick and wounded in the Hispano-American war, and the account of the proposed scheme for their care at Key West, contributed by the Special Correspondent of the *Standard* to that journal is of exceeding interest.

In ordinary times Key West possesses a Marine Hospital, for sailors of the Navy and of merchant vessels, capable of containing some thirty patients, and the Military Hospital at the barracks with about forty beds. It was, however, decided a short time ago to provide for the reception of at least five hundred wounded and sick men. With this object in view, what is called "The Convent," the home of the Roman Catholic sisterhood of Jesus and Mary was selected. The main building, which stands in extensive grounds situated at almost the exact centre of the Island, is very airy, but could of itself contain but few beds for patients. Apart from the doctors' quarters, the operating room, and the upper storey, inhabited by the Sisters, who will act as nurses, the building contains only too small wards capable of holding about two dozen patients. However, at the back, a wooden building, which is to serve as kitchen and laundry, is being constructed, and in the furthest corner of the grounds the site has been marked out for the erection of a temporary isolated ward for patients suffering from contagious diseases. In addition to this, however, the Medical Department of the Army has hired a large school-house just opposite the main entrance to the convent grounds, and a former large tobacco manufactory situated in the vicinity. These two buildings are to be transformed into hospitals, and will, it is estimated, with "the Convent" and the Marine and Military Hospitals, furnish accommodation for about five hundred patients. In the harbour there is a small hospital ship, and at the present moment the state of Texas, a Red Cross vessel, is riding at anchor in the port. This ship is intended not to serve as a hospital, but to convey the wounded to shore from the scene of a naval engagement. She is not even provided with the means of performing anything but the preliminary dressing of wounds.

Key West possesses the exceeding disadvantage of being without any drainage of any sort whatever; it will therefore be easily understood that, as an island with 20,000 inhabitants, it has grave disadvantages as a hospital station. It is proposed to treat all cases of yellow fever which occur among the troops in Cuba, but at the same time it is quite possible that the disease contracted in Cuba may only declare itself after Key West has been reached; in which case, under the insanitary conditions we have described, there would probably be an epidemic of serious proportions.

### Reflections

#### FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Princess of Wales has consented to receive purses at the opening of the Pfeiffer Wing of the London School of Medicine for Women, on July 11. Parents who wish their children to present purses are requested to communicate with the Secretary, 30, Handel Street, Brunswick Square, W.C.

On Saturday afternoon Princess Christian distributed the medals and certificates to the students of the National Health Society, at Grosvenor House. The chair was occupied by the Duke of Westminster.

The Treasurer of St. Mark's Hospital for Fistula, City Road, E.C., has received a cheque for £1,000 from Mrs. Douglas Henty to endow a bed to be called the "Julia Henty Bed."

The trustees of Smith's (Kensington Estate) Charity have sent a donation of £200 to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Mr. A. J. Balfour will distribute the prizes to the successful students in the Medical School of Guy's Hospital, on Wednesday, July 13th, at half-past three.

The Merchant Taylors' Company have sent £1,000 to the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund, and will contribute a like amount annually for the next two years.

At the Hackney Town Hall a public meeting was lately held, to demonstrate to the benevolent public the need of the completion of the North Eastern Hospital for Children, Hackney Road. Lord Amherst, of Hackney, who occupied the chair, announced that £20,000 was required to complete the building, out of which about £5,000 had been subscribed. Resolutions in support of the object of the meeting were adopted.

A meeting of the National Association for promoting the Welfare of the Feeble Minded was held at Stafford House on the 10th inst. The Duchess of Sutherland, the President of the Association, presided. The meeting was held in the Central Hall, which formed a charming room for the occasion. Indeed, the attention of those present might well have been distracted from the speeches to the study of the many coloured marbles which formed the walls, and the Corinthian columns which on each side of the gallery supported the roof. Again, the pictures which adorned the walls claimed attention; the beautiful ceiling—richly decorated with gold—and the flowers, arranged by an artistic hand, also, surely, attracted the observation of the colour loving portion of the audience. But the charm of the chairwoman fell upon her hearers, as soon as she began to speak, and rivetted their attention upon the persuasive words which fell from her lips as she pleaded the cause of the feeble-minded. The various resolutions were proposed by Lord Herschell, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., and Sir U. J. Kay Shuttleworth, M.P.,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)