

bespattered with mud if the roads happen to be at all dirty, the patient may be conveyed into hospital.

FURTHER, it is sometimes possible to obtain the loan of a carriage, through one of the government officials, from some wealthy native, but this cannot be relied upon.

THE most usual way of transporting an invalid, however, is in a hammock. It is quite an ordinary event in the English Hospital for the Matron to receive a message that — is ill, and will she send out the net. Accordingly two bearers start off, with a hammock slung on a pole, and bring the invalid into town. Think of it, invalids at home, who have St. John ambulances with india-rubber tyres, and all the paraphernalia that modern science can devise to make your journey as easy as possible. Imagine yourself, with a temperature of 104° Fahr. making a five mile journey in a hammock slung on to a pole supported at each end on the shoulders of native porters. A native mat will be hung over the pole to protect you from the glare of the sun. Think of a breathless evening—for you must make your journey before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.—the atmosphere like that of a steamy fern house, and the mosquitoes under the mat making life nearly intolerable to you. Don't imagine that your porters will keep in step either. You may consider yourself lucky if they do not drop you by the road side at least once in the course of the journey. Then ponder on the advantages of civilization and be thankful for your mercies.

It is in this way also that invalids from up-country are conveyed to the coast, on their way home. Perhaps only those who have suffered from malaria, with all its attendant restlessness, will be able fully to estimate the discomfort of this mode of conveyance.

The Hospital World.

THE NORTH-EASTERN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, HACKNEY ROAD.

THE North-Eastern Children's Hospital is, in common with many other institutions, appealing for increased pecuniary help, but the needs of this hospital appear to be of special urgency. We think our readers will endorse our opinion when we mention that amongst other disabilities there is no regular accident room, there is no mortuary, the post-mortem room being used for this purpose, and there is no isolation ward for in-patients. Further, the nursing staff is over-worked, but additional nurses cannot be engaged as there is no accommodation for them. At present when cases of illness occur amongst the nurses, the matron

has to give up her bed room to the invalid, and sleep in her sitting room which is, presumably, also her office and dining room, and lastly, when the board room has served its legitimate purpose, as well as being pressed into the service as sitting room for the resident medical officers, ladies' committee room, and as the general waiting room of the hospital, the unfortunate secretary has the reversal of it as his only office. Twenty thousand pounds are required to make the necessary additions and alterations, of which five thousand pounds are in hand. Donations towards the fifteen thousand pounds which are so urgently needed may be sent to Mr. T. Glenton-Kerr, the secretary at the hospital, and will be gratefully acknowledged. The Hospital is surrounded by the districts of Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, and Hackney, with a combined population of 482,683, while within a mile radius of the building is a population of 360,599. There is little wonder, therefore, that the fifty-seven beds, which are all that the hospital is able to open, are always full, and that many cases which ought to be admitted are treated as out-patients, when it is realized that the nearest children's hospitals to this densely populated neighbourhood are the East London, two miles to the south-east, at Shadwell, and the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, three miles to the west of Hackney Road.

The hospital is open for inspection every day, between two and four, and the public are cordially invited to go and see for themselves the work it is doing. We hope that many people will respond to this invitation of the Committee, and that the result will be a large addition to the funds of the charity, so that its much needed and excellent work may be extended, as well as placed on a sound financial basis.

At the recent Christmas entertainment there were a considerable number of visitors present. One of the most noticeable was Miss Phillips, who founded the hospital thirty years ago; several members of the visiting staff and of the ladies' committee also took part in the proceedings. Two Christmas trees in Connaught Ward rejoiced the hearts of the little people, while in Barclay Ward another tree and a full rigged ship caused keen delight. The ship was presented by the teachers and children of the Tanners End Mission, Edmonton. All the beds in the hospital were full, as usual, and each child became the happy recipient of three or four toys.

A capital musical programme was successfully carried out by members of the Polytechnic Mandoline Band and other ladies and gentlemen, while the pianoforte solos of Miss Violet Wilmot, aged eight, were much appreciated.

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