

nurses were qualified for the work they were called upon to perform.

The Reverend Richard Wilson, Senior Curate of S. Augustine's, Stepney, makes an urgent appeal for a temporary Cottage Hospital for Children during the hop picking season. Mr. Wilson speaks of what he knows. "Last year," he says, "I went hop picking with some hoppers from the east end." As a result of his experiences, he says, "In the village near where I am going hop picking this year, I have secured an empty cottage, which I propose to use as a Children's Hospital. I have an experienced nurse to take charge. But I want funds for the absolutely necessary furnishing and maintenance. At present I have only £35 subscribed." Who will help Mr. Wilson in his practical Christianity?

The first prize in the competition originated at the *Financial News* stall of the Press Bazaar, consisting of a handsome pair of bracelets, has been won by Mrs. Michael Gunn, St. Silskars, Eaton Avenue, N.W., and the second by Major E. Smith, 7, Nevem Square, S.W.

MR. CHARLES H. BERNERS, of Woolverstone Park, Ipswich, has been appointed a trustee of the Hostel of St. Luke (the Clergy Nursing Home, 16, Nottingham Place, W.), in the place of Mr. Lorance Carter, to whom the Council passed a vote of thanks for his valuable assistance to the Hostel. The report of the Home for the last month shows that it is quite full, fifteen patients having been received since the last monthly return.

A Model Cottage Hospital, which has been built at the expense of Mr. J. W. Penfold and his sisters, has recently been opened at Haslemere.

According to a telegram received at the Colonial Office, there were ten cases of bubonic plague in the colony of Hong Kong last week, and ten deaths during the same period. These returns are only a single point below those for the preceding week.

The German branch of the Red Cross Society has subscribed 10,000 marks in aid of the American and Spanish Red Cross Society.

An ancient Roman hospital has been brought to light at Baden, near Zurich, the discovery having been made in connection with recent excavations at Windisch, the Roman Vindonissa. At Vindonissa the two great Roman roads met, the one leading from the Great St. Bernard, along Lake Lemane, and then by Aventicum, and Vindonissa, to the Roman Stations on the Rhine; the other leading from Italy to Lake Constance by the Rhetian Alps, the canton which is now Winterthur, Baden, and Windisch. The last point was the station of the seventh and eighth legions, and close by the Roman road the hospital has been discovered. It contains fourteen rooms, supplied with many kinds of medical, pharmaceutical, and surgical apparatus. The excavations have also revealed a large number of silver and copper coins, the former belonging to the reigns of Vespasian and Hadrian, and the latter bearing the effigies of Claudius, Nero, and Domitian.

Professional Review.

BENJAMIN BRODIE.

WE have now got into the habit of expecting a good thing when another addition to the "Masters of Medicine Series," published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, of Paternoster Square, is announced, and certainly the life of Sir Benjamin Brodie, by Mr. Timothy Holmes, maintains the reputation which the series has now established. The engraving of Sir Benjamin, which forms the frontispiece, assures us that the man whom it represents is a notable character. We do not wonder, either, that his professional income at one time amounted to over £10,000 per annum, for he must have been an ideal consultant, and one who would inevitably inspire trust in his treatment. Strong, keen, thoughtful, earnest, and of refined sweetness, one instinctively feels that the face would be no index of character if Sir Benjamin Brodie could have been other than a generous, honourable gentleman. One begins the book with this conviction, and one ends it with a certainty that one's original estimate was the right one. The tenacity of purpose, which Sir Benjamin possessed was probably due to a great extent to the qualities which he inherited from his Scotch ancestors, and they stood him in good stead. He began his professional career by a house surgeonship at St. George's Hospital, and this was followed by his acting as assistant in his private practice to Sir Everard Home, during which time he also did much work at the museum of the College of Surgeons. In 1808, when he was not quite twenty-five, Brodie was appointed assistant-surgeon at St. George's, which, in those days, as there were no out-patients, meant assisting individual members of the staff in the full care of their in-patients. With characteristic thoroughness he "spent several hours daily in the wards, taking notes of cases, and communicating freely with the students." At this time the surgeons only visited the wards twice a week, or when they were especially sent for, and there is no doubt that Brodie's devotion to his work laid the foundation of his own reputation as a surgeon and teacher of surgery, as well as of the position of the Medical School at St. George's, which Mr. Timothy Holmes states, rose to and maintained a high standard during the whole of Brodie's service there. Various improvements were made in the methods of teaching then in vogue, by Brodie. He it was who introduced clinical clerks on the surgical side of the hospital, and began a course of clinical lectures on surgery, the first ever delivered in a London hospital. His success as a teacher was due to the fact that "whatever information he gave was drawn from or confirmed by his own observation, and that he was really in earnest in his endeavours to instruct his pupils." In 1809 Brodie began private practice; and in 1811 the Copley Medal was awarded him by the Royal Society. At this time he was much interested in the diseases of joints about which there was then little accurate information obtainable, and contributed a paper on this subject to the "Medico-Chirurgical Transactions," in 1813.

Even Sir Benjamin Brodie was not without his opponents and detractors, and for some time after Dr. Wilson had been appointed on to the staff of St. George's Hospital, a considerable amount of friction existed between the followers of Brodie and the followers of Dr. Wilson.

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