

The Hospital World.**WHERE PHTHISIS IS TREATED.
NORTH LONDON HOSPITAL FOR
CONSUMPTION.**

THE North London Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Mount Vernon, Hampstead Heath, stands on high ground, close to the Heath, near enough to London to be available for the benefit of Londoners, while it is sufficiently far removed to ensure to the patients the pure air, which is now universally admitted to be all important in the treatment of consumption.

The nursing is under the superintendence of Miss Jessie Whitton, who has recently been appointed Matron. Miss Whitton is, I was told, introducing various improvements with regard to the nursing arrangements. The nursing staff at present consists of the Matron and a Sister, who acts also as Assistant Matron, a charge nurse on each floor, four probationers on day duty, and two nurses on night duty. The charge nurses are required to have had general training, the probationers at present come for a year, previous to entering upon a general training, but it is contemplated in the future that they shall be required to serve the hospital for two years, and that at the end of that time they shall be examined, and certificates given to those who acquit themselves satisfactorily. Once again the truth is forced home upon one that the special hospitals afford opportunities to trained nurses for valuable experience which they cannot obtain in general hospitals, and that the greatest benefit would accrue both to general and to special hospitals, if affiliation between the two could be arranged. The North London Hospital has accommodation for eighty patients, but owing to lack of funds, only about sixty beds are at present available. The men are accommodated on one floor, and the women on the floor above. Each ward contains, as a rule, about four or five beds. There is a large dining room, in which both men and women take their meals, at separate tables, there are also day rooms for the patients on each floor, as the large majority of them are able to be up. A room is also provided, on each floor, for the use of the medical officer when seeing the patients. In the basement, a billiard and smoking room is provided for the men, and is much appreciated; here, also, are linen and store cupboards. The nurses are housed at the top of the building, and have a very comfortable sitting room, which has lately been re-decorated. The kitchen is also at the top of the building. It is hoped that in the future the hospital may adopt the open air method of treatment. Probably, the greatest difficulty in the way will be the dislike of the patients themselves to fresh air.

M. B.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Ladies' Kennel Association have forwarded to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, the sum of £62 os. 1d. This sum is the profit of the Earl's Court Exhibition, held in December, last year.

A munificent donation of £1,000 from "H," and one of £500 from "E," have been received towards the Charing Cross Hospital special appeal for £100,000, started in November, 1896, to place the hospital on a sound financial basis, and to provide a proper out-patient department and nursing quarters and other minor improvements. About £41,000 has now been received.

Whenever a benefit *matinée* is held at the Empire, the financial results are always large. The Queen's Jubilee Nurses' Institute has been the latest object of its charity, and thanks to the liberal programme provided by Mr. H. J. Hitchins, there was a crowded audience, and it is expected that a sum of £350 will be handed over to the Institute.

The study of diseases peculiar to the tropics is receiving a great stimulus from the Colonial Office and the Royal Society.

The former has nominated an experienced medical officer of the colonial service who will first of all study the subject for two months in India, and will then proceed to Africa—probably to Blantyre, in the British Central African Protectorate—where he will join two competent observers, who have already been sent out by the Royal Society with the same object. Their joint studies will occupy about two years.

In addition to this the directors of the Seamen's Hospital at the Albert Docks, which offers exceptional opportunities for studying cases of tropical disease, are providing the necessary buildings and teachers for the instruction of colonial medical officers. It is hoped that this institution will be opened for instruction by October 1st, 1899.

The Imperial Government is contributing to the maintenance of this school, which will also be open to private practitioners. The co-operation of the colonies will also be asked.

At the last Comitia of the Royal College of Physicians a communication was received from the Seamen's Hospital Society, asking the College to nominate a representative on a committee appointed to organise this School of Tropical Medicine. Dr. Curnow explained that although Dr. Anderson and himself were physicians to the Seamen's Hospital, at Greenwich, they had not been consulted in the matter, and, having detailed some of the correspondence which had taken place between himself and the secretary of the hospital, he moved "the previous question," which was carried. Surely the opinion of the medical staff of a hospital on such a question must be all important, and we hope the Colonial Office will speedily realise this fact, if it hopes to make this scheme a success.

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