

managers, be it noted, and, during the Civil War, upwards of 120 soldiers were admitted.

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WE are glad to observe an appreciative notice of the services to the Hospital of Miss Lucy Walker, "the very efficient Superintendent of Nurses, who is also Matron, and directs the housekeeping."

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WE learn that in the Government Hospital at Hong Kong Chinese boys work under the superintendence of the Matron and Sisters, and that they make excellent nurses, but that even the best of them require constant supervision. We fancy the Hospital must bear a resemblance to the Tower of Babel, as we hear of Frenchmen, Germans, Turks, Greeks, Japanese, Malays, Sikhs, and other Hindoos among the patients, besides Chinese, speaking various dialects. However, the lodge keepers and other officials generally are able, between them, to act as interpreters.

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MANY of the patients have intermittent fever, and the Sikhs and Chinese seem to suffer more acutely than Europeans. This is the opposite to the rule which prevails in tropical Africa—there it is rare for natives to die of fever. They contract it, but may be in bed with a temperature of 103° one day, and up and about the next, while Europeans, as is well known, suffer severely from it. The explanation sometimes given for this is that the native inherits from his progenitors a certain amount of immunity, owing to the diluted poison in his blood acting as an anti-toxin. The fact that in Hong Kong the natives are especially susceptible is, therefore, interesting.

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THE Chinaman, in common with the Goanese, seems to be an accomplished cook, but he evidently retains his established character all the world over. It does not do, we are told, to visit the kitchen, or you may find your jellies being strained through a dirty stocking. This reminds one of a story, told in that most entertaining book "Behind the Bungalow," of a lady who got quite tired of the dirt of her kitchen under the regime of a Goanese cook, and engaged a Chinaman. She enlarged on the virtues of her newly-found treasure to a friend, and they resolved to visit their two kitchens in company and compare notes. First of all the Goanese cook was visited. One look was enough, and they fled. They then visited John Chinaman. Everything was in apple-pie order, the kitchen immaculately clean, and his mistress triumphant; but her appreciation of his charms was modified when he was discovered behind the door engaged in washing his feet in the soup tureen.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



ONE of the most important speeches at the Sanitary Congress was that by Professor Simpson on the recrudescence of plague. He asserted that the sudden disappearance of plague from Europe was not due to advancing civilization, and that absence of plague was no proof of immunity of the locality. It was most likely to come from the east by the great land routes, but the Portugal outbreak increased the danger, and it was necessary to take precautions against invasion, and to study the disease in order to cope with it successfully. He was of opinion that "the importance to this country of observing its behaviour, as modified by conditions in Europe, is such that study of it in its epidemiological, prophylactic, and curative aspects should be undertaken by Government. To this end it would appear to be advisable that a small commission of physicians, epidemiologists, and bacteriologists should be sent to the Peninsula for that purpose. It is a matter of Imperial concern, and admits of no delay."

Mr. T. M. Restell has bequeathed to the Miller Hospital, Greenwich, on the death or re-marriage of his wife, £5,000 for building a new wing, to be called W. and T. Restell Wing. He also left to the Royal Hospital for Incurables at Putney £6,000 for a new wing, also to be called the W. and T. Restell Wing.

Mr. Passmore Edwards has offered to give the sum of £4,000 for the erection of the much-needed cottage hospital at the corner of Shrewsbury Road, East Ham. The committee have already collected £2,000 towards the purchase of the site, and now require £1,500 to complete the bargain.

On Saturday last the Japanese warship *Shikishima*, lying in the Royal Albert Dock was, by the permission of the Japanese Legation, on view to visitors, on payment of 1s., for the benefit of the Seamen's Hospital Society (Dreadnought). As over 5,000 persons availed themselves of the opportunity the Society should benefit to a considerable amount.

The Britisher who availed himself so largely of the opportunity afforded him of seeing this great ship was for once, we think, within his rights in pluming himself upon his own superiority. We do not think that anywhere the man-o'-war is to be found which can rival our own in point of smartness in the matter of paint and polished brass, while the decks of a British man-o'-war can give points to most in cleanliness. Nevertheless, it is always interesting and instructive to observe the methods of other nations.

Four deaths from lockjaw were reported from Kent last week. The victims were an infant with whom the disease supervened on burns; a cyclist, after an accident; a boy of eight, who scratched his throat, and a quoit player, who succumbed after a blow from a quoit.

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