

## The Hospital World.

THE MILLER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,  
GREENWICH.

AN unpretentious little hospital is the Miller Memorial Hospital, Greenwich. Nevertheless, it accomplishes much good work, and only needs more liberal support in order to enlarge its borders, as is imperatively needed, and accomplish much more. A foundation stone in the wall testifies that the hospital, as its name denotes, was built as a memorial to the late Dr. Miller, who was at one time Rector of an important church in Birmingham, and afterwards removed to Greenwich, and to whom belongs the honour of conceiving the idea of Hospital Sunday.

In the midst of a teeming population, and with the nearest general hospital, which is Guy's, three miles away, it will be readily understood that there is seldom an empty bed, and that only acute cases, a large proportion of which are accidents, can be admitted. The out-patients who attended the Hospital amounted to 18,000, last year, so that the work entailed in this department is heavy.

The Matron of the Hospital is Miss E. L. Underhill, who also acts as Sister of the wards. Her position is, therefore, an onerous one, but she has the pleasure of keeping in touch with practical nursing in a way which the Matron of a larger hospital, whose work is almost exclusively administrative, is unable to do.

The Miller Hospital is one of the few hospitals which is built with circular wards—the Great Northern has them, as well as the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road. The opinion of most members of the nursing profession concerning circular wards is, apparently, unanimous. A query as to whether Miss Underhill likes circular wards brings promptly the usual reply, "In theory, yes; in practice, no. They are nice in some ways, and they certainly save the nurses much walking; but a great disadvantage is that, owing to a central stove, it is impossible for a nurse to have all her patients under observation at the same time."

Behind each bed is a curtain of turkey twill, which can be swung out, and which largely obviates the necessity for carrying screens. Next to the women's ward is the operating theatre—a small ward utilized for this purpose. A theatre specially built for the object for which it is used is one of the good things of the future when funds come in. On the ground floor is another small ward, and here was an interesting X-ray photograph showing the position of a bullet in the head of a patient now in the ward.

## Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE date of the Queen's visit to Bristol to open the Royal Convalescent Home, in honour of her long reign, has been finally fixed for Wednesday, November 15th, two days after the Colston anniversary. The Lord Mayor, Mr. Herbert Ashman, has headed a subscription list with a gift of £5,000 to decorate the streets and to entertain the poor and children.

The German Emperor and Empress have contributed a sum of 30,000 marks to the Red Cross Society's fund for the relief of sufferers by the recent floods in Bavaria.

When the suggestion of establishing a school for the study of tropical diseases in connection with a branch of the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital was made, it was pointed out in a contemporary that such a department would be best attached to the Naval Hospital at Haslar, as so many cases of tropical diseases are admitted into this institution. We understand that the work of organizing a department with special reference to the study of these diseases is now being organized by the authorities at Haslar.

The Royal Army Medical Corps is considerably below the establishment strength; and, strange to say, even with the amended inducements to make the Army popular with the medical schools, there is considerable indifference among the students with regard to the service.

The cost of building the Grove Hospital, the latest of the Metropolitan Asylums Board Hospitals works out at about £500 a bed, a sum which high as it seems, must, the *British Medical Journal* considers, be accepted as the present standard for a first-class hospital.

The out-patient department of the Royal Orthopædic Hospital is now opened. In-patients will not be received for another month.

The General Hospital, Bristol, and the Royal Infirmary, have amalgamated with regard to the training of medical students, so that students will now have the opportunity of following the practice at both institutions.

A trial of the open air treatment of phthisis at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, has been followed by favourable results. This is of interest as a proof that even in towns, where the air is necessarily to some extent impure, the open air treatment is beneficial.

A series of lectures on the Homœopathic treatment of tropical diseases has been arranged at the Hahnemann Hospital Liverpool.

A serious epidemic of enteric fever has occurred at Tring, in Hertfordshire, and in one street there are no fewer than sixty cases. The first case occurred about three weeks ago, and within seven days twenty

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)