

great demonstration in Exeter Hall on Wednesday night, presided over by Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and addressed by Lady Henry Somerset, the Hon. Mrs. Eliot Yorke, Canon Wilberforce, Canon Murnane, Rev. George Gladstone, of Glasgow, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin. The social functions will include a garden party at Lambeth Palace and a reception by the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House.

Birmingham proposes to isolate its enteric cases, the Health Committee purpose erecting a small isolation hospital on the newly acquired site on the Yardley Road, and retaining the present institution for the enteric patients.

The inhabitants of Kingston have decided to establish a "Baden-Powell" cot in the local hospital in honour of the relief of Mafeking.

Two or three weeks ago an announcement was made that by the will of the late Miss Bain, Edinburgh, £3,000 had been left to build and endow a cottage hospital for Lerwick in far away Shetland, in memory of the donor's brother, Gilbert Bain. The trustees have now received intimation that Mrs. Matthew Anderson only surviving sister of the late Miss Bain, will contribute an additional £2,000 towards the endowment of the Gilbert Bain Hospital. Great satisfaction is expressed at the handsome gift.

Near Palermo, in a picturesque situation on the sea-coast, there has been founded a sanatorium for consumptive patients, which in its appointments surpasses any establishment of the kind yet erected. The Villa Igiea, which is shortly to be opened by the King of Italy in person, combines in fact all the luxuries of a first-class hotel, with such hygienic arrangements, prescribed by modern science, as will enable the open-air treatment to be followed under the most favourable conditions. The founder, Commendatore Florio, a Sicilian gentleman of great wealth and benevolence, recently entertained to a private inspection of the sanatorium, a representative party of English doctors, which included Sir Walter Foster, M.P., Sir Lauder Brunton, Professor Clifford Allbutt and other lights of the profession. Professor Vincenzo Cervello, of the University of Palermo, a well-known authority on tuberculosis, is the medical superintendent of the establishment, where an optional therapeutic treatment by the inhalation of medicated air will be followed. The Villa Igiea is a rich man's paradise, but its profits will be entirely devoted to gratuitous treatment of poorer patients.

Bubonic plague is now claiming its victims in India, Aden, Port Said, Cairo, Hong Kong, Macao, China, and Australia. Great precautions are being taken in the United States to prevent it gaining a footing in America.

No further cases of bubonic plague have been discovered at Durban, and it is hoped that the danger of an epidemic has passed. Dr. Laumann, a plague expert, who has been brought specially from India, is exercising extreme vigilance in the Indian quarters and makes daily domiciliary visits.

Professional Review.

A SOCIETY WOMAN ON THE WAR.

"Side Lights on the War," by Jessica Sykes (Lady Sykes), just issued by T. Fisher Unwin, has proved amusing reading during the past week. Lady Sykes had a few weeks' time "to put in," and was one of the first ladies of title to conceive the happy idea of taking a peep at the war and wounded in South Africa, so early in November she set out, and after spending a few weeks in Natal, she returned to England, and has given the world her impressions in a very readable little book, the first of many which we may expect from "society" pens at no distant date.

Lady Sykes is "on the spot," and made good use of her excellent powers of observation, but it is what she writes concerning the hospital and nursing world that we find most interesting, and it is to be regretted that, like so many other society women, she shows such a jealous dislike to trained nurses, and has not a good word to say for army doctors.

She says—

"I visited Wynberg—pronounced and meaning *Wine-burg*—where are the great vineyards producing wine which, I fancy, is a good deal more drunk (under other names than those the various brands go by here) in Europe than most of us are aware.

"The great military hospital is here. We are told, and, I have no doubt, with truth, that it is admirably organized, replete with comfort, and that the men are intensely happy there. No jail, however, is more jealously guarded; it is with the utmost difficulty any civilian, male or female, can get a pass even to visit a dear friend or near relation. Even carriages are not permitted to drive within the enclosed precincts, covering a very large amount of territory, where the hospital tents are erected. And the precautions taken to avoid visitors are more those one would expect to be made to guard criminals than to nurse wounded heroes.

"I attribute these elaborate arrangements a great deal to the intense jealousy which seems to reign between the civil and military element. Later on, I remember one of the civilian volunteer ambulance male nurses saying to me at Estcourt, 'These army doctors, if they had their way, would rather see their patients die, than let them be assisted by others than army corps men and army nurses.'

"Referring to nurses, I will make a remark now which was, however, not borne upon me at first, but impressed me very greatly as time went on. I cannot help thinking that the great

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