

expenditure required in the erection of the hospital, which alleviates more pain than any other institution in the metropolis. Those who have endured the agony of tooth-ache will agree with this statement.

An encouraging annual report has been issued by the committee of the New Hospital for Women in the Euston Road. This bright and well-kept little hospital now contains fifty beds, and the number of in-patients during the year was 604. With regard to maternity cases 241 patients have been attended, and there has been no mortality in this department since its establishment. This result was pointed to as being valuable, as showing how midwifery mortality could be reduced even among poor women. Financially, the hospital has caused much anxiety to the committee, who, however, by special effort, were able to face the new year with a small surplus. The Cottage Convalescent Home connected with the hospital is as valuable and as much appreciated as ever. In moving the adoption of the report the chairman referred to the good work done by the hospital, and the advance made in the direction of employing the services of properly qualified lady practitioners in this branch of medical science. This point was also emphasised by Dr. Payne in seconding the resolution, which was carried.

The Prudential Assurance Company, which has just issued its Fifty-second Annual Report, has perhaps accomplished more remarkable results in the promotion of thrift amongst the working classes than any other body has ever achieved. It has taken the great principles of insurance—that is to say, of wise provision for the ever uncertain future—right into the homes of the poor in every part of the country. An army of agents call week by week and collect premiums by pence here and pence there. But the enormous aggregate of these pennies swelled up last year to produce the colossal income of nearly nine millions of pounds. More than three and a-half millions were paid out in claims, and at the end of December there were still nearly fourteen million people insured in this one office, while to meet their future claims, the company has nearly forty millions in invested funds.

Blast and counter blast fill columns of the *Times* of the National Hospital dispute between the Committee and the Medical Staff—a meeting of governors is to be held on Saturday the 23rd inst., when it is to be hoped a truce leading to a lasting peace may be arranged—still where conscience dictates we rejoice to see a good fight—anything is better than *dolce far niente* when right and wrong are concerned.

Dr. Laborde, of Paris, states that it has been established by experiments with a number of patients at the St. Louis Hospital, all of whom were suffering from an unknown and inexplicable disease, that their illness was the result of having used hair dye.

One of the strangest public prayers of which history has note came the other day from Chaplain Noe of the Arkansas House of Representatives: "O Lord, we thank Thee that we are not in the lunatic asylum this morning, nor considered fit subjects for the same." Perhaps more "by good luck than good looking for"!

Our Foreign Letter.

FROM CANADA.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS AND GOLD MEDAL.



An interesting presentation recently took place in the Board of Trade room at Hamilton, when Miss Elizabeth Russell, the nurse who did such good work

among the Canadian soldiers in South Africa, was honoured by the local branch of the Red Cross Society.

On behalf of the society, Mrs. Hendrie, in place of the President, who was ill, read an address to Miss Russell, and presented her with a handsome gold medal. The medal was the size of a half dollar, and on one side bore Miss Russell's initials, raised; a red cross, raised, and a maple wreath. On the reverse side it had the following inscription: "Elizabeth Russell, from the Hamilton Branch of the Red Cross Society." On reading the address, Mrs. Hendrie referred to the last occasion on which the Red Cross ladies had met Miss Russell just before she set out for the scene of the war on a noble mission, and since that time she had given valuable service to her country. Mrs. Hendrie cordially welcomed Miss Russell back to Hamilton.

The following is a copy of the address;—

"I deem it a privilege as well as a very pleasant duty to present to you to-day, in the name of the Hamilton branch of the Red Cross Society, a small token of their esteem and regard for one who, at the call to arms, volunteered to leave home and friends and kindred and accompany the soldiers of our late beloved and greatly lamented Queen as they went forth to face the foe for the honour of Queen and Empire, to minister to the wants of the sick, wounded and dying as they lay in the lonely hospitals of the far-off dark continent.

"It must always be to us and to you a saddened pleasure that our fair Dominion was enabled to prove its loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, the good, in the closing days of her most glorious reign, and we trust that you may be long spared to carry on this good work when occasion arises, testifying loyalty to King Edward and the Empire to which we belong. This noble work is second to none which the Great Creator has given His creatures to do."

Miss Russell replied as follows:—
To Mrs. Du Moulin and ladies of the Red Cross Society of Hamilton:

I thank you most cordially for this expression of your kindness and esteem and for the hearty welcome which you have accorded me on my return from South Africa. I have a most pleasant recollection of meeting you in this very room on the eve of my departure for South Africa, and of then receiving a substantial token of your kindness as well as a hearty send-off of good

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