

work with a proper nursing education be offered, undoubtedly a better class of workers will offer themselves, who would be willing to give their time or even to pay for their training. The difficulty just now is to induce a better class to take up this work.

French ladies, like others we know of, seem quite willing to sacrifice themselves upon the altar of humanity when the whole country acts as audience, for there are many who belong to the Red Cross Society, and who expect to assist in times of war or public calamity, but at present nursing the sick poor in hospital, without the blessings of those helped as their reward, does not appeal to their hearts.

When the authorities do grasp the fact of the necessity of trained Matrons, then nursing in France will, I think, progress with giant strides. All hospitals in Paris, being under municipal control, there will be undoubtedly a uniform curriculum, examination, and certification, with, no doubt, in the near future, State Registration, and unless we British nurses look well to it and put our shoulders to the wheel we shall have the mortification of seeing French trained nurses (who at present do not exist) leaving us behind in regard to organisation, as our American sisters have already done, for French women are excellent business women and organisers when once they do put their hands to the plough.

English nurses, will you allow this also?

MARY BURR.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



The King and Queen are to attend the afternoon service at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday, June 7th, on which day the collections at the services will be devoted to the hospitals and dispensaries of the metropolis through the Hospital Sunday Fund.

Princess Henry of Battenberg, as President of the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital, presided at a special meeting of the Governors, held at Ryde, to consider a report and plans, prepared by Mr. T. W. Cutler, for remodelling the institution. Mr. Cutler's scheme has been prepared in three sections, so as to permit of the necessary work being carried out without interfering with the administration of the hospital, the approximate estimate of cost being £18,292. After a long discussion, it was decided by a substantial majority that sections A and B—providing for building a sanitary tower, revising the whole of the sanitary arrangements, erecting new isolation wards, and a fireproof staircase—be carried out as soon as possible, and, if necessary, invested capital be used to cover the cost of the sanitary work.

It is reported that the Metropolitan Asylums Board will shortly have a motor ambulance for the conveyance of fever patients. There ought to be little difficulty in developing the idea beyond fever patients and in installing similar ambulance stations.

Arrangements for the purchase of a site near Haslemere for the King's Consumption Sanatorium are practically completed. The site is 600 ft. above sea level and about 120 acres in extent.

An important step in the progress of the scheme or providing Leicester with a new workhouse infirmary was marked when the foundation stone of the new institution at North Evington was laid by Mr. Arthur Kemp. The event was one of unusual interest, both to the Board of Guardians, over which Mr. Kemp so ably presides, and to the ratepayers.

The annual report and statement of accounts of the Bristol General Hospital have just been issued in pamphlet form, and prominence is given to the statement that the institution urgently needs new and increased subscriptions. The number of in-patients treated in 1902 was 2,454, the out-patients numbered 23,966, and the number of casualties attended to was 10,193. The total expenditure was £12,462, and the receipts amounted to £10,628.

A suggestion has been made that the visit of the King and Queen to Belfast should be taken advantage of for raising an endowment fund of £100,000 for the Royal Victoria Hospital. This could be done by asking their Majesties to accept purses for such a fund.

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh has received an official intimation of the Royal visit to that city. It is hoped that the King and Queen may open during their stay the fine new fever hospital which the city is building and also pay a visit to the Royal Infirmary.

West Ham's new workhouse infirmary, which was opened recently, stands on twenty-three acres of land overlooking Epping Forest. It has cost £250,000, and its maintenance is estimated at £1,000 a week.

In consequence of the outbreak of small-pox at Amersham Workhouse, in Bucks, the patient (a tramp) has been removed in a birdhouse, which constitutes an isolation hospital, and is placed in a plantation in the neighbourhood. Eight other tramps with whom the patient was brought in contact were recommended to be vaccinated, but they positively refused to submit to the operation.

An important step has been taken in connection with the Victoria Memorial Hospital scheme at Nice. The purchase deed of the site to be built upon has been duly signed. The ground is situated at Mont Boron, just at the corner where the road turns down towards Villefranche, an excellent position. Some further handsome subscriptions have just been received, and the work of construction will no doubt begin very soon.

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