

nursing of the sick—they have been woefully deficient. The funds available to meet the expenses of nursing have been altogether inadequate, and the All Saints' Sisters, who generously undertook the organisation of the nursing staff, have struggled vainly with a mass of work which the money at their disposal did not allow them to seriously attack. From time to time, spasmodic attempts have been made to introduce a permanent remedy. Lady Reay raised a fund which now yields an income of 400 rupees a month. In November of last year Government, tardily alive to a sense of their responsibilities, largely increased their grant.

“Even under these circumstances, which mark an immense improvement upon the previous state of affairs, the condition of the nursing is nothing short of deplorable. In the Jamsetjee Hospital, where a bed is rarely empty, one-half the wards are altogether unnursed, and the patients therein are left to the tender mercies of ward boys and ayahs. For the Eye Hospital, too, no nurses are available. Upon the most modest computation, the supply of nurses does not exceed one-half the minimum requirements. The other patients are left to battle with disease without that trained nursing which experience has proved to be an indispensable adjunct to medical skill.

“Such is the state of affairs now actually obtaining, but it is a matter for great satisfaction to find that a permanent improvement is now assured. When these circumstances came to the knowledge of Mrs. W. H. Crowe, a few months ago, she determined to find a remedy. Having enlisted the co-operation of the Hon. Mr. Justice Crowe, an energetic canvass for funds was undertaken, and this has succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectations. At a meeting of the provisional committee to which, when formally constituted, Government propose to entrust the administration of the nursing fund, on Monday, Mr. Crowe was able to announce that they had already collected no less than a lakh of rupees. This is a noble sum to raise for charitable purposes during a period of trade depression such as Bombay is now experiencing. It is a tribute at once to the indefatigable zeal with which Mr. and Mrs. Crowe threw themselves into their self-imposed task, and the generosity of the moneyed classes of the city when the great needs of the hospitals were brought personally to their notice. The hope that Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy expressed at the committee meeting to which reference has already been made, that early steps will be taken to associate the name of Mrs. Crowe prominently with the fund, will, we feel sure, find a cordial response amongst the subscribers.”

The Hospital World.

EDINBURGH'S NEW FEVER HOSPITAL.

During a recent visit to Edinburgh we had the great pleasure of inspecting the magnificent new Fever Hospital, situated at Colinton Mains, in the Morningside district of the city, which is to be opened with much pomp and circumstance by the King and Queen in person on Wednesday next.

The Edinburgh Town Council more than half-a-dozen years ago purchased the farm of Colinton Mains, extending to 130 acres, for £20,500, upon which to erect a much-needed fever hospital. The old hospital is the building of the old infirmary, in the very heart of the town. The new situation has commanding views of the range of the Pentland Hills, with Swanston, the home for some years of R. L. Stevenson, right in the foreground. In the woods of Dreghorn, Malloch (or Mallet) composed his ballad of “William and Margaret”; while the Six-foot Club, of which Hogg and Scott were members, used to gather at Hunter's Tryst, now a dairy. Some 75 acres of the land at Colinton Mains have been utilised for the erection of the new Fever Hospital, which will accommodate 600 patients, at a cost of £600 per head. The staff accommodation, besides Medical Superintendent, Lady Superintendent, and assistants, will be for 150 nurses and 60 servants. The work has been in progress for about five years, and, although formally opened on May 13th, the place will not be ready for occupation for a considerable time yet. There are two main entrances, that from the east from Morningside, by which the King will enter, the other from the west by Colinton Road.

The site is all that could be desired for health, nestling at the south side of Craiglockhart Hill, about 400 ft. above sea-level. The general offices, kitchen, dining-rooms, nurses' home, and ward assistants' home are in the centre of the pavilions, and are spacious and beautiful. The ward pavilions, with 80 ft. between each, are in double rows to east and west; those to the east are for scarlet fever patients, and those to the west for diphtheria, typhoid, erysipelas, measles, chicken-pox, whooping-cough, and typhus. These pavilions, though isolated, are connected by means of covered ways, and are fitted with the most detailed care.

When the whole of the buildings are completed and ready for occupation, which is expected to be near the end of this year, the hospital will have cost £338,738, and this will provide accommodation for 600 beds. The sum compares most favourably with the similar hospital in Glasgow. The details are as follows:—

Purchase of site.....	£20,646	6	3
Hospital construction, 1896 to 1901-02	198,230	17	2
Do., 1902-03, to April 20th.....	55,010	19	6

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)