

clothed in white kimonos, the most comfortable of garments.

The Surgeon-Colonel, with two Surgeon-Lieutenants, in handsome uniforms, accompanied us round the hospital. The nurses, when being addressed by me, stood to attention just as soldiers would have done. The chief nurse, who had three gold stars on her collar, stood at their head, the other nurses having only one star (a delightful badge, much nicer than medals or armbands). Of course, they all wore white uniforms, with their red crosses on the front band of their white caps. With these female nurses there were also two gentlemen in uniform, members of the Red Cross Society.

Nothing could exceed the kindness and courtesy shown me throughout by all I came into contact with.

I may mention that I have been entrusted with a sum of money to endow a bed in a hospital for the families of soldiers and sailors by two friends (an American and an Australian) who have been visitors to Japan, and if you, dear Madam, or any of your readers, feel inclined to help these brave Japanese during their struggle with Russia I should be most ready to act for you here. Woollen socks, mufflers, and jerseys are required for the use of the soldiers and sailors. I have already been able to send some through the Governor's wife here, and have been assured they would be much appreciated. Any subscriptions entrusted to me I would utilise as desired, but would particularly wish to have money to give towards the cost of hospital beds for the families of soldiers and sailors, as I understand there are no free beds in Japanese hospitals. The scale of charges run from 50 sen (1s.) to 1½ yen (3s.) per diem. I enclose two small photographs taken outside a small hospital in Kobé which is for the use of foreigners of all nations.

I may add, I hope to be here for twelve months longer at least before returning to my appointment as Matron-Superintendent of Nurses under the Madras Government. Should any English ladies, nurses or others, visit Japan, they may feel assured of the kindest courtesy from Japanese.

M. A. NISBET.

### The Sanitary Institute.

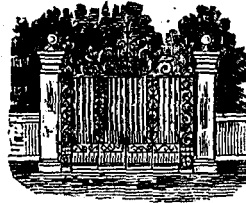
One of the special features of the Health Exhibition of the Sanitary Institute at Glasgow in July next will be a municipal exhibit arranged by the different departments of the Glasgow Corporation. The Cleansing Department propose to arrange for, amongst other things, exhibits of a model up-to-date destructor, and the Globe Fertiliser, the Gas and Electric Departments the latest developments in illumination, and the Sewage Departments what they can produce from what were formerly waste products.

The other departments of the Corporation will also be well represented with their different interests, and we feel sure that the representatives of the municipalities who regularly attend the Congresses of the Institute will welcome this opportunity of witnessing the progress that is made in municipal enterprises by the Glasgow Corporation.

The social and holiday aspect of the Congress has not been overlooked, and excursions have been arranged to the following amongst other places: Loch Lomond, the Trossachs, and the Falls of Clyde.

### Outside the Gates.

#### WOMEN.



The Report of the Women's Local Government Society, of which Miss Louisa Twining has been recently elected President, contains some apt illustrations of the need for women on County Councils. The Secretary of the Scottish Women's Liberal Federation

forwarded an excerpt from a newspaper report of a meeting of the Perth County Council, at which Colonel Home Drummond presided. The extract related to the State Inebriate Reformatory, and stated:—

"The members of the Visiting Committee of the State Inebriate Reformatory were re-appointed. Lord Mansfield said there was one thing he would like to emphasise. He considered it a pity that no lady was qualified to be on that Committee. Many ladies, unfortunately, from time to time become inmates of the Inebriate Department, and he did think that some lady should be appointed as a visitor. He wished to bring that forward as a protest on behalf of the ladies, and perhaps, in course of time, some alteration might be made in the law in this respect. The Chairman thought it would be a very good thing. The Clerk was instructed to send the suggestion to the Prison Commissioners."

The Committee of the Women's Local Government Society point out that, as women cannot be members of County Councils, their appointment as members of Visiting Committees, not only of inebriate reformatories, but also of lunatic asylums in England, Wales, and Scotland, can only be secured by special legislation. In Ireland the position is different, for under the Local Government Act, 1898, women may be appointed as members of the committee for managing the lunatic asylums of a county, and on the committee of every county infirmary and fever hospital.

Another illustration of the need of an enabling Bill is the case of Miss Margaret Ashton, at present the only elected woman on an Education Committee. Miss Ashton is Chairman of the Education Committee of the Urban District Council of Withington. The incorporation of Withington with Manchester has been in contemplation for some time, and will probably take place in the autumn. The present chairman must cease to be a councillor, and her educational work must be restricted to that which is possible to a co-opted member of the Education Committee of the Manchester Council.

The removal of the disabilities which now are imposed upon women, so that they may be eligible for appointment on public bodies, is of the utmost importance. We wish all success to the Women's Local Government Society in the main issue now before it, namely, to bring sufficient pressure of public opinion to bear on Parliament to secure the passage into law of the short enabling Bills which have been introduced.

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