

wards, which were decorated for the occasion, and also attended a capital concert given by the nurses.

The Manager of this Journal recently received the following from a nurse on a post card:—"Sir, kindly let me know as soon as possible what you would charge for *fetal skull or hire* by the week." He hurriedly placed the card in an envelope and forwarded it on to us. Surely such questions might be asked with the privacy of a penny stamp!

In aid of the new casualty ward of the West London Hospital, the gardens at Holland House will be opened to the public by permission of Lord and Lady Ilchester on the 22nd inst. and the 29th inst.; and the payments for admission going to the hospital.

Dr. Marc Blatin's book gives a glimpse into the Paris hospitals a decade ago, in a letter by Dr. G. W. Samways. "The nursing inefficiency in France can be judged from the following:—In 1896, when 'walking the hospitals' in Paris, I asked a patient whom I was examining in a surgical ward of no less a hospital than the 'Hotel Dieu' when he was washed last. He replied, 'I have not been washed.' I then asked him how long he had been in the hospital. He replied, 'Two months.' 'Do you mean to tell me,' said I, 'that you have been in this ward two months, and not been washed?' He answered, 'I cannot go to the bath myself, and unless you can you don't get washed.' I then went to a patient lying opposite to him with a fractured femur, and asked him to let me see his splint. As I lifted the bedclothes, he said, 'Take care, Sir, it's all alive.'" There is now a great awakening in France on the question of nursing the sick, and reforms are steadily progressing.

A valued correspondent in India sends us the following good news:—

"At last the Government General Hospital, Madras, has fallen into line with other up to date Nurse Training Schools in giving a 'Trained Nurse' Certificate only after three years' training.

"A certificate as 'Assistant Nurse' is given on the passing of an examination by a Board of Medical Officers at the end of one year's training.

"This most gratifying alteration in the rules was sanctioned by Government at the end of 1904.

"The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is doing much to educate the nurses of India on professional lines, and has taught them to understand the necessity of a three years' training, and the advantages of a certificate of training for that time, rather than that which they received sometimes after only *three months'* experience in a hospital, a custom which prevailed in the early eighties when the present Matron of the Madras General Hospital took charge.

"Reforms have taken place slowly, for there is seldom undue haste in Government procedure."

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



His Majesty the King has ordered that three wards in the Military Hospital, Millbank, shall be named respectively "King Edward," "Queen Alexandra," and "Princess Victoria," in commemoration of their Majesties' inspection of the hospital on the 1st inst.

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Victoria, the Duchess of Sparta, and Princess Frederick Charles of Hesse, paid a second visit to the Military Hospital at Millbank on Tuesday afternoon.

The seventy-third annual meeting of the British Medical Association will be held at Leicester on the 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th insts. under the presidency of Mr. George Cooper Franklin. On the evening of the second day, the president will deliver his address, receive the colonial and foreign guests in the Temperance Hall, and present the gold medal of merit of the association to Sir Constantine Holman and to Mr. Andrew Clark and the Stewart Prize to Mr. William Henry Power. Next day an address in medicine will be delivered by Dr. Henry Maudsley. On Thursday (the third day) an address in surgery will be delivered by Mr. Charles John Bond, and at night the annual dinner of the association will be held in the County Assembly Rooms. On Friday evening, a popular lecture will be delivered by Professor William Stirling on "Rest and Fatigue." On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, scientific sections will meet. Much hospitality will be offered to members.

On the occasion of the distribution of prizes at Guy's Hospital Medical School last week, the new Gordon Museum of Anatomy and Pathology was open for the first time. Here the famous collection of wax anatomical models by Towne—an inheritance of which Guy's is justly proud—is placed in a position far superior to that which it previously occupied. Mr. Robert Gordon, to whose munificence and interest in medical education Guy's owes the museum, was presented with a silver replica of the founder's statue, together with a book containing the signatures of the Prince of Wales and those of all the Governors.

On the recent prize day at Bart's, Lord Ludlow, the new treasurer, said that though he had only been connected with the hospital some six months, he took the greatest interest in its work. They hoped to have finished the out-patients' block in two years' time. They had promises of about £108,000, of which amount they had received some £99,000. The contract price for the whole block was £125,000, and he was convinced that all the money would be forthcoming by the time the work was finished. They then intended to proceed with the Pathological Block.

The French Ambassador last week unveiled at the French Hospital and Dispensary, Shaftesbury Avenue, a bust of the late Dr. Achille Vintras, the founder and senior physician of that institution. The bust, which

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