

The new hospital and training school for nurses at Constantinople, to the destruction of which by fire we briefly referred last week, was to have been opened in a few days, nearly every bed was promised, and several serious operations were to have been performed which, greatly to the sorrow of Dr. Carrington, have now had to be postponed. The fire has done grievous havoc. The home and furniture of Dr. and Mrs. Carrington and their assistants, the valuable library and surgical instruments, and the fittings and equipment of the hospital, which had been sent from New York, have all been destroyed.

Writing in the *American Journal of Nursing* Miss L. L. Dock reports of nursing in Korea:

"Miss Esther L. Shields has kindly sent us a collection of reports and leaflets showing the wonderful extension of medical and nursing missions in Korea, which only thirty years ago was closed to all the outer world. We have made some extracts from these leaves, which give a glimpse of what is going on.

"All the diseases that flesh is heir to, and the climate will permit to flourish, are found among the Koreans. Their condition is made worse by their unsanitary mode of life, and by the fact that diseases, with one or two exceptions, are not treated by the Koreans in a way that does any good. Surgery is wholly unknown.

"They believe that disease is caused by a demon that enters the body, therefore they most frequently use a needle in order that the evil spirit may find an exit. These punctures are made in any place in the body, even the eye. Where a sepsis is unknown, the lamentable results had better be imagined than written. The Korean medicines include all kinds of charms and inert and poisonous things.

"At the start the results of foreign surgery and medicine were so remarkable as to seem miraculous. Missionary work among the cholera sufferers in 1886 and 1894 did not a little to break down the anti-foreign prejudices.

"The Koreans greatly need instruction and help in scientific medicine and surgery, and almost every American or English doctor does either dispensary or hospital work or both, and helps to instruct young men and a few young women in medicine and the care of the sick. Many of the homes are so small and unhygienic that typhus fever, smallpox, scarlet fever, and other contagious diseases are often seen. Cholera comes occasionally, dysentery every summer.

"Severence Hospital, which was opened in its new buildings in September, 1904, has been carrying on its beneficent work without interruption ever since. The two years that have elapsed have proven the great need of this hospital in its present form; sixteen thousand people have been treated in the daily dispensary clinic, and 490 have been admitted to the wards, while a large number of visits to homes has been made. A considerable number of persons other than Koreans has patron-

ised the wards of the hospital, the list including Americans, English, French, Japanese, and Chinese, and the adaptation of the institution to this use is likely in the future to prove one of its most valuable features, more especially as the nursing department is to be strengthened by the addition of trained Japanese nurses, who will serve as head nurses under the direction of an American trained nurse (Miss Shields), a sufficiently large staff of Korean women being under the guidance of the above to insure the thorough care of every patient. Up to this time it has not been thought proper to place Korean women as nurses in the male wards, but the rapid changes in the ideas and customs of the Korean people, and more especially the development of Christian principles and practices in such a large number, have prepared the way for the introduction of this most desirable feature and many Christian women are now offering themselves for training as nurses, so that it is expected that ere long all the male nurses will have been replaced by women. A definite course of study and training is being laid out for them, and the experience of the physicians leads them to believe that Korean women are capable of becoming very excellent nurses. Fifty dollars supports a bed in this hospital for one year."

### The Shareholders' Meeting at the Nurses' Hostel.

On Thursday, the 18th, the shareholders of the Nurses' Hostel assembled at their annual meeting. Mr. Lionel Earle was in the chair, and in the best Crichton-Browne manner so well known to nurses, suppressed free discussion on the treatment of Miss Hulme. As usual, the nurses, smarting under a sense of wrong, were speedily intimidated, only a few holding up their hands against the adoption of the report, which suppressed all reference to the appointment and discharge of the late Superintendent, or the re-election of Mr. Lionel Earle and Miss Clegg as directors. From letters in our correspondence columns the present condition of affairs is apparent, and we can only congratulate those "rebels" who have had notice to quit, in severing their connection with an institution which has earned for itself the reputation for tyranny and injustice which now clings to the Nurses' Hostel. No doubt the quack nursing press will lend its aid in return for value received through paid advertisements, in recommending its charms to the unwary, a lesson to professional women of the danger of exploitation by the greedy lay capitalist.

As we surmised, Miss B. Chamberlain, who was qualifying at the Hostel to succeed Miss Paul as Secretary, has stepped into Miss Hulme's position, Miss Keet has been elected Secretary.

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