

An Appeal.

The Secretary of the London Homœopathic Hospital will no doubt charm subscriptions from the pockets of those who have birds by the following little story sent to the press:—"A pigeon bearing a metal band round its leg, with the number 1905 Z in yellow lettering followed by 12 in black lettering, suffering with a badly lacerated leg claimed admittance to the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond-street, W.C., to-day by flying in at one of the windows. After receiving treatment it was offered its freedom, but will not leave us, following the custom of the majority of the thousand and odd in-patients we admit each year in being sorry when the time comes to take their discharge from our comfortable wards. In view of our constantly increasing work among the suffering poor, the Board of Management of the hospital is at the present time appealing for £30,000 (of which some £13,000 is already conditionally promised) to extend the hospital accommodation. The work has been carried on in the present building for eleven years with marvellous success, but further progress in the present restricted area is not possible. More accommodation is wanted in the wards, in the domestic department, and more especially in the out-patient department, as well as extra consulting rooms for the use of the medical staff. It was thought that the pigeon might have been the means of communication adopted by some 'anonymous' donor to send a cheque to Lord Cawdor, the treasurer of the hospital, for this extension appeal fund, but, alas! no communication other than the metal ring was found upon it. The owner can have the pigeon by giving a description of it, and if the anonymous donor forgot to attach the cheque to the bird it will be gratefully received."

Mr. Sydney Holland has found a rival in the happy knack of begging in Mr. Edward A. Attwood—we wish his appeal success.

Foreign Nursing Journals for October.

The *Garde-Malade Hospitalière*, which appears every two months, contains the continuation of a most excellent translation of Miss Stewart's address on the Twentieth Century Matron. Miss Stewart's paper is rendered into very clear and forcible French, and it is a pleasure to read again her masterpiece in our sister-tongue. The rest of the journal is principally concerned with an account of the examination of the candidates of the Tondou Nursing School, which appears to have included a practical examination in the hospital wards. There are three pictures of the successful candidates and the doctors grouped in a hospital square.

Unterm Lazaruskreuz, the German nursing organ, has a long leading article on "Nursing Abroad," by a Matron who has worked in Constantinople apparently with much success. It seems that German Sisters are wanted at a hospital in Merida, and Miss Miller

gives some excellent advice on the subject, especially to those who are inclined to accept foreign appointments for the sake of the money and the excitement of foreign service.

The midwives' question is evidently a burning one in Germany, and in an article by a German medical man, three points will strike an English reader—firstly, that he considers nine months none too long a time for her instruction—secondly, a statement that "the system (*i.e.*, of instruction) is arranged for scholars with national school education, and is so firmly established on those lines, that it is absolutely impossible for educated women to attend the course." One naturally wonders why? and, thirdly, that the writer seems to think a far higher course of training and standard of education is required for a monthly nurse than a midwife. The article is part of a controversy on the subject. There is a translation of a recent article from the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING—"Recollections of Susan B. Anthony." There is a letter, *re* the organisation of nurses, emphasising the practical side of the question, the hardness of Matrons, the folly of false sentiment with regard to the profession, and complaining of the small private hospitals who "cannot get their Sisters cheap enough," and take their servants and "train" them as nurses.

Nosokomos the Dutch Nursing paper, has a long article on "Our Insurance Company," which is about to be handed over to a committee of nurses "in a very good financial condition"; another, to be continued, on "Some Improvements in the Management of the Insane." There is a short account of meetings of the White Cross and the Green Cross Associations, and foreign news, whilst a prize is offered for the best answer to a question which troubles us here as there, "How best can we procure good nursing for the poorer middle-class." May they find the solution.

The *Tidskrift for Sygepleje*, the Danish nursing journal, opens with a continuation of a list of the best known drugs and their uses, etc.—and has a rather interesting article by a nurse who went to the London Hospital for six weeks to get some sort of idea how English hospitals were managed. She seems very pleased at the accommodation provided for the nurses, and the respect in which they are held. She says the matron decides everything concerning the nurses. She is seldom seen in the wards, but "she works in her office, where she receives written and verbal reports from every ward, and from which she issues her orders which are absolute and not allowed to be criticised." She praises Tredegar House and its instruction. Whilst she finds much to praise, she also criticises some things in the wards. For instance, that the patients are allowed to wear their own clothes, often far from being as clean as they might be, whilst the fact that the patients had to bring their own butter, tea and sugar she thought dreadful, as of course it is, and it seems a pity that it was not explained to her that that is now quite the exception in English hospitals. She considers that the cleanliness of the wards cannot be compared to that of the Danish Hospitals, in fact, the cleaning of the wards astonished her very much.

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