

Nursing Echoes.

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High festival was kept on Christmas Day in the hospitals throughout the country, and the gifts of many kindly friends will benefit not only the patients in the wards, but have found their way to husbands, wives and children at home where they are specially acceptable during this spell of bitter weather.

An interesting series of lectures which are free to all nurses, will be delivered weekly in the new year at the Miller Hospital, Greenwich Road, S.E., on Tuesday evenings at 8 o'clock, beginning on January 8th. Further particulars may be obtained from the Matron of the Hospital.

The Assistant Matron at the Kingston Infirmary, Miss A. Smith, is giving a course of lectures on Electricity and the Light Treatment, the practical demonstrations being given in the new Light room. The subject is arousing general interest, and will prove a valuable addition to the training given in the Kingston Infirmary. A girl with lupus of the face is at present undergoing the treatment of the Finsen-Reyne lamp, and the marked improvement from day to day in the case forms an object lesson in the value of this treatment for what was formerly considered an incurable disease.

Owing to pressure upon our space we have so far only referred very briefly to the set of the mortuary linen used at the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, sent by the Lady Superintendent, Miss E. M. Jones, to the Nursing Exhibition at St. George's Hall, W. The set comprised a counterpane, a sheet sham (embroidered by Sisters), a pillow sham, and a face cloth (embroidered, and the gift of Mrs. and Miss Langton, Buckhill). The very elaborately embroidered pillow sham shown at the Nursing Exhibition in 1896 is not now used. For some years a plain hem-stitched one has been substituted, as the chemicals employed by the pathologists are so destructive.

The relics of barbarism, kindly sent by

Dr. Hyslop, resident physician at Bethlem Royal Hospital, S.E., were terrible evidence of the treatment to which lunatics were subjected in days gone by. They included an iron body jacket, with shoulder braces, chains and handcuffs, waistband and cuffs, gloves, anklets, and leg hobbles. The weight of these was enormous, and setting aside the restriction and pain involved must certainly have been most injurious to the health of the unfortunate wearer.

We own to considerable sympathy with Miss M. F. Blower, who decided not to take up her appointment as Nurse in the Infirmary at Strood, Rochester, because the guardians declined to allow her to bring her dog. It is one of the real deprivations of nurses who are animal lovers that they are unable to indulge their desire to have these faithful friends about them. Nevertheless it is a necessity that this should be so as a rule. Except in some instances in the country it is quite impossible for nurses to keep animals, and certainly they should not take it for granted that they can take them with them to new appointments. Miss Blower pathetically wrote: "I cannot part from my dog, she has been my constant companion for so long, and I cannot find any place to board her."

Mr. James Taylor gave an interesting lecture on twelve English cathedrals, illustrated by a fine collection of limelight views recently, at the Museum in College Square, Belfast, to the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association. The course of lectures given this winter to the members of the above Association have been much appreciated. Dr. McLeish will give a lecture on the "Nervous System" on January 24th, and Dr. Allen on the "Ear," on February 13th; both lectures will be held in the Museum.

A correspondent in Germany writes: "I have already sent you some details of the nursing service at the Rudolph Virchow Hospital, and I am sure you did not approve of the small salaries offered to the sisters. Of course they cannot get enough on those terms. They need 230 next year, when the building will be completed, and the German Nurses' Association is asked to supply thirty sisters. They will get thirty marks monthly instead of the twenty marks paid to the sisters at the hospital as a rule. Needless to say, we shall not get thirty sisters to serve under such conditions. Some will help for a few months in order to get hospital experience for a time. The matron and doctors do not approve, but the Town Committee who

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