

installed, and are under the direction of Mlle. Hénault, who visits the hospital for some hours every day, and superintends all, with the assistance of Mlle. Duconseil, who is the head resident nursing officer, and occupies the beautiful suite of seven rooms described by Miss Dock in a recent issue.

Mlle. Hénault is an excellent disciplinarian, and as discipline is one of the first essentials of good nursing, this promises well for the new school. Mlle. Chaptal gave the first of her lectures on December 6th, so that the school is now in full working order, and we heartily wish a successful career to the new class of pupils who start on the course with so many advantages.

The question of trained nursing in prisons is just now arousing interest, and our claim is for more women in them. Near Boston in the United States is one of the most remarkable prisons in the world—the South Framingham Reformatory for Women. Its striking feature is that it is entirely managed by women, the Governor, doctors, and warders all being of the same sex as the prisoners, and it has proved already that *home influence* in substitution to *institution rule* has had a marked effect for good. In a man's prison every attendant is a walking arsenal, but here the warders go about with not even a hatpin to defend themselves.

Prisoners spend the first week in the annex under the supervision of the resident physician, who determines whether the prisoner's physical condition admits of work or if she shall be sent to the hospital.

Before entering the prison each woman is taken to the office of the Superintendent, who has a long private talk with her, explains to her how she may rise or descend to the various grades, and that good conduct will shorten her time and bring her certain privileges. These kindly interviews must soften many a hard heart, and inspire hopefulness.

The treatment is humane, there is an assembly room in which the prisoners read and play games, a mulberry park, where the poor babes born in prison get summer sun baths, and where summer chapel is held, a soap house, where all the soap is made, a drying-room for apples and other fruits. The whole of this domain is presided over by one little woman, Mrs. Frances A. Morton, to whom credit is due for the many improvements and innovations that rob the prison of its stigma by converting it into a home.

## The Hospital World.

### THE ROYAL MINERAL WATER HOSPITAL, BATH.

One of the many interesting places to visit in Bath, especially to nurses, is the Royal Mineral Water Hospital. This hospital was opened in 1742 as the result of the efforts of Beau Nash, Sir Richard Steele of *The Spectator*, Dr. Oliver, the inventor of the biscuit of that name, and Mr. Ralph Allen, of Prior Park, who not only gave all the stone ready dressed required for the building, but also £1,000 in money.

The architect, Mr. J. Wood, gave the drafts and plans of the building. Royalty also contributed to the funds, and the building started on its way under the brightest auspices.

The interest thus aroused is shown to this day by many evidences in and about the building. The board room is almost lined with the many pictures of past Presidents, including those of the four founders; that of Dr. Oliver being the portrait from which the photograph was taken for the famous Bath Oliver biscuits; the hospital still retains the negative. There are two charming pastels of Beau Nash in all the splendour of the gorgeous apparel for which his day was famous. Six pencil drawings of Bath in 1770 were contributed by Starr.

The furniture, too, is not of the light modern kind, but good, solid, and substantial, worthy of the dignity and traditions of the building, including a fine large gate leg table and old arm chairs most comfortable to sit in during protracted business meetings; nor does the inkstand detract in any way from the ancient appearance of the room, being as it is of pewter and quaint in shape. The chest containing the numerous documents and Acts of Parliament (for, as Miss Griffith, the charming Matron, remarks, "We do nothing in a hurry, everything being done according to Act of Parliament") is of iron, with massive bands and lock.

Later on, the original building was added to, and a beautiful chapel included; for the decoration of which, as is recorded upon a tablet near the organ, the late James Brymer gave £500, most of which has been expended upon the fine stone carving around the apse, on the ceiling, the olive branch and lily being the chief *motif* here, and the corbels. In the apse are seven stained glass windows, the subjects of which are illustrative of the healing power of water both physical and spiritual. There is Moses striking the Rock, the Cleansing of Naaman the Leper, Christ and the Woman at the Well, the Baptism of Christ, Christ Washing the Disciples' Feet, the Ban-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)