

least sixteen hours out of the twenty-four."

Miss Nightingale then intimated that she had given to four nurses the letters of recall sent to her to deliver if she thought fit, but wrote:—

"I had hoped to have found some serious devotion to the cause we are engaged in, but have no other complaint to make. I am obliged by the letters of recall . . . I cannot too strongly draw your attention to the difference between a military and a London hospital, to the consequent necessity for different rules, and to the probability of the nurses in question doing extremely well in private nursing at home, but not among the officers here."

Even at the present day it has been found that nurses who do well in private nursing at home are by no means always suited for work in military hospitals in war time.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London has had a record year, and at the meeting held at Marlborough House on Monday, at which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presided, £121,000 was distributed amongst the Metropolitan hospitals and their convalescent homes. Guy's Hospital has the lion's share this year with donations of £10,000 towards the £20,000 required for the re-building of the out-patients' department and £5,000 for general purposes. The London Hospital gets £10,000 and King's College Hospital £7,000, of which £6,000 goes to the removal fund, making the splendid sum of £22,000 given by the King's Fund in the last few years for this very wise purpose.

The Prince of Wales read the names of the General Council of the Fund and Standing Committees for 1908, and it is a matter for deep regret that no women are nominated to take part in this national work of charity—to which women have subscribed so liberally. Hospital management is largely domestic, and thousands of women are admitted to our hospitals and attended by women, so that their exclusion from the governing body of the King's Hospital Fund is most inexpedient. It seems the irony of fate that Miss Florence Nightingale's sex should be persistently excluded from Metropolitan hospital management.

The Council of the Hospital Saturday Fund have decided to close the accounts for 1907 on the 6th of January, 1908. The receipts from January to Saturday, the 23rd ult., amounted to £17,963, against £17,545 at the corresponding period of last year.

Mr. George C. Peachey has been deputed to compile a history of St. George's Hospital, and is desirous of obtaining access to any documents, portraits, or objects of interest which are in private hands, dealing with that institution or with past St. George's men. No doubt the history of the nursing department will be included—it is oftentimes both amusing and instructive.

Our Foreign Letter.

THE NEW GERMAN HOSPITAL AT ALEXANDRIA.



A double ceremony took place at Alexandria on December 1st, which can but be of importance to us who

take interest in the international history and news of the hospital and nursing world.

It was the 50th anniversary of the landing of three deaconesses from Kaiserswerth as nurses (1857), and the laying of the foundation stone of a new hospital.

This ceremony took a whole day, beginning with divine service in the morning at the German Protestant Church, an eloquent address having been given by Mr. Buck, after which a lunch was given by the German Consul at his house to Count Bernstorff, and the Hospital Committee. The ceremony of laying the foundation stone took place in the afternoon, and this was again followed by a banquet attended by 150 persons in the evening.

The history of this hospital at Alexandria, which has been nursed with the greatest devotion by the German deaconesses for the last 50 years, is worthy of note, for, in those days Egypt was not in the civilised condition it is now, when almost every nation has its own hospital.

In 1856, Pastor Fliedner went out to Egypt for his health, and while he was there both the German and British Consuls-General asked him to start a hospital at Alexandria where so many sailors and others were constantly passing. The French hospital, which was nursed by the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, was full to overflowing, and Pastor Fliedner saw the need of a second institution. With the support of the two Governments, and contributions from the two nations, a large Turkish house was rented, and Sister-Superior Barbara Erckmann and two other deaconesses left their country to start their good work, devotedly nursing the sick of every race, nation, religion, and sect on this earth. A few years later a larger house was bought, restored, and additions made to it, but now, with the present requirements of science, this building has become inadequate, and a new one to meet the demands of the day is required. Again, the two nations have come together, and contributed to the fresh needs of the cost of this building. In his address, Mr. Wunderlich, the German Consul, referring to the political relations between Great Britain and Germany, said: "*Concordia parva crescunt. Discordia maxima dilabuntur*" (Concord makes the small prosper, discord ruins the great.) There has existed in latter years in politics much misunderstanding between Great Britain and Germany, happily now dissipated. Let the example of our hospital, where Great Britain and Germany work

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