

sidered that the latter's valuable knowledge as Nurse could be used to greater advantage at Kalihi, on the few patients there who are undergoing a course of the most systematic and careful treatment that modern science can give them, than in a general way at the leper colony.

A VERY interesting article appeared in last Friday's issue of the *Manchester Guardian*, entitled "A Round of Visits with a District Nurse," and from which I take the liberty of quoting the following:—"What good nursing may do for a poor man's home was well shown by one case that we visited during the morning. In a fairly tidy house a buxom young woman lay ill with a swollen leg. The mischief was such that without the daily care of the Nurse fatal results must have ensued, to the ruin of the little home. The limb required constant dressing, and the clumsy efforts of kindly neighbours to perform the operation themselves had only resulted in making the patient worse. The arrival of a skilled Nurse soon worked a change, and the woman had now nearly recovered. It will readily be seen that help of this kind cannot be provided by the poor themselves. They understand, as I have said, nothing about nursing, and if they ever do learn it will be through the visits of these skilful and kindly women, who with infinite patience give practical lessons in cleanliness and care of the sick. Thus the work of the Nursing Institution is the reverse of pauperising; it tides the poor man's household over a time of difficulty against which the home resources are necessarily insufficient, and it does so by means which convey sound instruction for those who care to learn. When the round of visits was ended, and the Nurse returned to the Home for her well-earned dinner and rest, I thought I had never seen a more useful day's work done, and when I recollected that the morning's visits were to be followed by a similar round at night I did not wonder that the Nurses were received with smiles, or that patients and their friends take opportunities of showing their gratitude by making gifts to the Homes out of their slender means." I do not like to appear ungrateful in my remarks, but I only wish that something like a fair proportion of our Hospital Saturday and Sunday Funds were only devoted to the maintenance or help of "District Nursing," which is undoubtedly one of the greatest helps to civilisation and betterment ever introduced, work which cannot possibly be too highly estimated or too greatly valued.

I AM glad to be able to chronicle the account of the first annual meeting of the Ladies' Nursing Guild of South Shields, held in connection with

the St. John Ambulance Association, which took place last Friday evening at the Town Hall, South Shields. I learn that Miss Alice Robson read the annual report, which stated that the object of the guild was to afford skilful nursing to the sick poor in their own homes. The guild had now completed the first year of its existence. The associates at present numbered thirty-two, of whom twenty-two were honorary members. Since the guild was formed, over twenty cases had been visited, and nine were being regularly attended at present. About five hundred visits had been paid, and those who had been visited had expressed their warm appreciation and gratitude for the benefits received by them; and altogether an excellent first year's work appears to have been performed, which is highly creditable to everybody concerned.

It is pleasing to note that the various religious denominations in various towns are becoming animated with a spirit of friendly envy in regard to the carrying on of nursing work among the poor, and Newcastle—a particularly enterprising town in everything of a philanthropic nature—is almost in the front in respect to it. First came the grand work of the Cathedral Nurse and Loan Society, then that started by the Wesleyan body, and now the congregation of the St. James's Church, Bath Road, have commenced a very similar undertaking, which promises every success.

ONE of the prettiest features at the very excellent annual display of the National Physical Recreation Society, held each evening of last week at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, was the physical exercises by girls trained under the able direction of Mrs. Strachan Matthews. A large number of young girls, attired each in a pretty grey dress, with a pink sash, went through all sorts of useful movements calculated to prove of the greatest service in the physical development of the girls engaged in them. I need hardly say that they were "well received." H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and suite were highly interested and delighted in the performance.

I AM glad to be able to note that Sister E. A. Wildman, of the Royal Hants County Hospital, has received "promotion," having just been appointed Matron of the Lowestoft Hospital, and I wish this lady every success in her new sphere of work.

I AM also indebted to the clerk of the Parochial Board, Barony Parish, Glasgow, who writes:—"I beg to inform you that my Board at its meeting to-day appointed Miss Alice Godwin pre-

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