

THE Victoria Hospital, Burnley, which is under the able superintendence of Miss Piggott, also had its very fair share of "season's keeping." I am glad to note that, since December 31st, sufficient money has been obtained to enable the Committee to build a Children's Ward, which was greatly needed in the Hospital. Mrs. Edward Ecroyd, Lady O'Hagan, and Sir U. Kay-Shuttleworth, Bart., M.P., all popular residents of the district, have entered heartily into the matter, with the result that much has already been done through their efforts and more is yet likely to be accomplished. I only wish I had space to give even a tithe of the interesting information which I have lately received concerning this useful and necessary Institution.

THEY have a wonderful and kindly individual in the neighbourhood of Burnley called "Uncle Jack," whose seasonable advice and gifts to the little patients of the Hospital have probably rendered him the most popular individual in the whole of Burnley childom, and this is the way it is done in the "Uncle Jack's" column of the local paper:—

DEAR LITTLE SUNBEAMS,—

The first thing you will be wondering about is how did they like the Toys and Cards at the Hospital. Uncle Jack has received the following letter which will tell you something about them:—

"The Victoria Hospital for Burnley and District,
December 19th, 1889.

"Dear Uncle Jack,—I duly received the large box of toys, Christmas cards, books, &c., which you have so kindly forwarded on behalf of the young army of Sunbeams, who have been so busy lately working and thinking how they might make our suffering little ones happy and merry at Christmas. That they have succeeded will, I am sure, be amply manifested on Christmas morning, when the young children in the Hospital (of whom there are a goodly number) receive the handsome gift you have sent us. Whatever the outside weather may be, there will be bright sunbeams flashing in the eyes and cheering the hearts of the poor children here, and in their name and my own, I beg to most heartily thank the generous donors for their seasonable gifts, and to wish for them an hundredfold of joys in return for the joy they have given others. With best wishes for the continued success of your work amongst the young.—I remain, yours gratefully,
MARY PIGGOTT, Matron."

List of things sent: "Pictorial World," one box of tea-things, two boxes of dolls' furniture, one doll's cradle, one large india-rubber ball, one toy cat, eight dolls, four dolls' bonnets and hats, two woollen balls, one fancy box, one game of fox and geese, one box of Christmas cards, one motto, one scrap album with scraps, five toy books, one seed cake, one currant loaf, two pairs of children's knives and forks, six small lanterns, one pocketbook, and ten trumpets.

Uncle Jack sent up several other parcels.

Somehow or other, when I think of the many little beings made so thoroughly happy, at least for once in their lives, I would rather a thousand times be "Uncle Jack" than anybody else in the whole of Christendom.

It is a fact, however, which is becoming more widely proved each succeeding Christmas, that many committees do not approve of entertainments being given in Institutions devoted to the alleviation of pain and sickness. There is no doubt that this primary object of a Hospital has been frequently forgotten by those desirous of making merry at this season of the year, and as a result disfavour has been brought on all such entertainments, however quiet and harmless. For example, no little comment is now being made on the recent proceedings at a well-known Children's Hospital, where the Matron, it appears, took a leading part in the theatricals which were given, the rehearsals and representations being followed by suppers and dances far into the watches of the nights.

I QUOTED some weeks ago the powerful remarks made by a newspaper writer upon the subject of improperly drained Hospitals. I hear now that the drains at the London Hospital have been overhauled and found to be very defective, and that it is estimated that a very large sum will have to be expended in modernising them. If this be the case the sooner the work is undertaken the better will it be for the health of the large staff of workers always resident in the great East End Institution.

I HEAR that Miss Freeman, who has been Sister of John Ward, at St. Bartholomew's, for some months, is about to be married, and has therefore to the great regret of all who have worked with her resigned her present post. It is stated that Miss Wisden, who was the Gold Medallist of her year, and is now Night Sister, has been appointed Sister of John Ward, in place of Miss Freeman; and that Miss Munro has been appointed Night Sister in place of Miss Wisden.

I PUBLISHED some time ago a letter in these columns, signed by "One Who Knows," relative to the mortality of the Nurses in the Grafton Street, Liverpool, Hospital, and asked for a statement from some official of that Institution as to the truth of the letter. I have not as yet received any communication from the officials, but I have had forwarded to me instead the copy of a letter strongly in support of "One Who Knows'" expressions. I append it here:—

MORTALITY AMONGST HOSPITAL NURSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY POST."

SIR,—I can fully corroborate the touching remarks of your correspondent, "One Who Knows," in regard to the unenviable position of the Nurses in the Grafton Street Institution. As to poor Nurse Peat, who has so recently met her death, only those who, like myself, have been under her care, and probably owe their lives to her exertions, can

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