

Book III.

In Book III., which begins in the second volume, "The Practice of Nursing" is dealt with. Chapters on "Personal Hygiene for Nurses" and "The Symptoms and Signs of Disease as observed by the Nurse" are contributed by Dr. Bosanquet.

PRACTICAL DETAILS OF NURSING.

This subject is undertaken by Miss A. McIntosh, Assistant Matron at the London Hospital, who covers a wide range of subjects from ventilation to the care of surgical instruments, serum injections, and laying out the dead. In connection with the administration of medicines, she gives some useful hints. Thus: "If a patient's throat and mouth are dry he will taste the medicine much more, so that it is a good plan to let him have a drink of water first." To administer croton oil "a tiny piece of butter should be taken on the end of a spoon and a dent made in it. Into this the croton oil is dropped. The spoon is placed well back in the patient's mouth, and the butter melts off and slides down the throat." "A cachet should be placed in a spoon and just dipped into some water. The patient can easily swallow it then if a drink of water is given afterwards."

THE NURSING OF PHTHISIS.

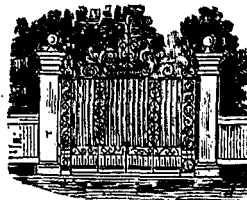
Miss Helen Todd, Matron of the Wandsworth Infirmary, contributes the chapter on this subject, with which she is exceptionally well qualified to deal by her experience as Matron of the Royal National Sanatorium, Bournemouth. She points out that "The present-day medical treatment of tubercular disease, and especially phthisis (pulmonary tuberculosis) consists chiefly, as far as the patient is concerned, of a close observation of the rules of hygiene, of super alimentation, and of carefully prescribed alternations of rest and graduated exercise in the open air, together with strict attention to the destruction of infective matter. "It is very necessary that the nurse in charge should realise not only the nature of the illness and its causation, but also the rationale of modern treatment, which is not so much to effect a cure by means of drugs and disinfectants as to husband the patient's strength, and build up his constitution, so that his natural forces may be enabled to combat the disease and eventually gain the victory." She gives many practical hints, and an illustration of the lounge chair which she designed, and which has appeared in this journal, which has many advantages over the ordinary chair of this description.

THE NURSING OF CHEST AFFECTIONS.

Miss E. C. Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, writes on "The Nursing of Chest Affections other than Phthisis," including pneumonia, bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pleurisy. She points out that the nursing of chest diseases is a great test of a nurse's capabilities. In connection with the nursing points of chronic bronchitis, Miss Barton advises that in very foggy weather it is desirable to fasten a piece of flannel or fine muslin across the aperture of the open window; the air will filter through, but the solid particles will be left behind.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



On the eve of his departure for his tour abroad, General Booth has addressed a stirring message to the Army on the subject of "Woman." At his request it was read on Sunday morning at every Salvation Army place of worship throughout the country. The General, in his instructions, said: "The officer responsible for the reading is desired to read it straight through without making any comment."

The message was in part as follows: "My feelings and opinions with respect to woman generally are known throughout the world. My standard on this subject is ever before you, and I want the entire Army to embrace it. First and foremost I insist on woman's equality. Every officer and soldier should hold to it that woman is as important, as valuable, as capable, and as necessary to the progress and happiness of the world as man. Unfortunately a large number of people of every class think otherwise. They still cling to the notion of bygone ages that as a being woman is inferior to man.

"To many she is little more than a plaything for their leisure hours. To others, she is like a piece of property, a slave in everything but name. Oft-times, she is treated with less consideration as to health and comfort than the horses that run in omnibuses, or beasts that are fattening for slaughter. Now, the Salvation Army has done, and is doing, something to combat these hideous and heathen notions.

"I do not say that every individual faculty in woman is equal to the corresponding faculty in man, any more than I would say each particular capacity possessed by man is equal to the same in woman. They differ both in character and degree. But where one is weaker, the other is stronger. For example, in the power of will, and in the possession of physical force, the man will often be found to excel the woman. On the other hand, in quickness of perception, in powers of endurance, and in strength of love (the quality in us which is most God-like), woman is generally the superior of man. Taken as a whole, therefore, I say that woman is equal to man in the value of her gifts, and the extent of her influence; and I maintain that if she be given a fair chance she will prove it to be so."

On Saturday last a surprised, interested, and manifestly sympathetic London was astonished to see an open landau decorated with the white, purple, and green of the National Women's Social and Political Union, and drawn by about a dozen

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)