

a haven of repose in the midst of a troubled life—where colour comes back to the pale cheek and strength to the shrunken limb—and blessings in abundance are heard, as I know, from discharged inmates, on those who have proved themselves emphatically to be *friends in need*."

A quarter of a century ago Bexhill was a lovely old-time fishing village. It is still lovely, but alas! no longer a village. The air is superb, and wise were the great-hearted managers of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution when they secured several acres of high ground, overlooking the glorious blue waters of the Channel, and placed a house beautiful upon the magnificent site, in which convalescing and debilitated poor persons might enjoy the comforts of a real home.

Pay the Seaside Branch for Women a visit, and that is the impression conveyed. The place is a real home. Inside and out it is charming, tastefully decorated, comfortably furnished, with fine views from the open windows, and picturesque grounds. It is evident that the planting of the garden has been a labour of love. Beautiful trees and flowering shrubs, mossy lawns, and a riot of lovely flowers, make it a bower of restful delight. This Home is a charming place, and much of its beauty is no doubt the result of the affectionate interest bestowed upon it by the late Lady Superintendent, Miss S. E. Pettitt, who worked there from 1886 for twenty-three years, and identified herself in a very special sense with all its concerns.

Her successor, Miss Gertrude Oslar, trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, will, I feel sure, carry on the traditions. With natural pride, she did the honours of the house during my recent visit to this ideal place. Everything was in order, and yet delightfully homelike. As few rules as possible are enforced, and happiness, that indispensable element in the restoration of health, is evidently appreciated at its true value. Formerly men and women were both admitted to this Home, but it is given up entirely to women now, and a fine new building for men has been erected at Cooden, close to Bexhill.

Here, again, a fine, extensive site has been secured close to the sea, where all the year round there is an ample supply of ozone. "Hope, health, happiness, here I come," one almost hears the good tidings dash in on the crest of the waves as they break on the Cooden shore, and caught up on the wings of the tumultuous wind, sweep on through the open windows into the Home.

Miss Maud A. Crump, the most capable Lady Superintendent, also trained at St. Bar-

tholomew's Hospital, has much of interest to show of what an up-to-date convalescent home should be. At each of the Bexhill Homes there are surgical wards for patients requiring treatment after operations, and at Cooden surgical dressings keep the staff quite busy. Under benevolent supervision the whole Home was found exquisitely clean and well ordered.

This branch is still uncompleted. The building scheme provides for 118 patients and the necessary staff, while the funds available have only enabled the managers to provide rooms for 80 patients. £7,000 is required for the completion of the building as originally designed, and for this sum 38 additional beds could be provided. No charitably disposed person could spend money to better purpose, and if there are any superfluous thousands floating around at the disposal of any reader of this "appreciation," it would be well that they should be sent at once to the Secretary of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution, Mr. Alex Hayes, at 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W. He can make good use of any amount.

E. G. F.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

Miss E. Carpenter Turner, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, will represent the Matrons' Council at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women, to be held at Portsmouth on October 20th and 21st.

WELCOME HELP.

We beg to acknowledge a generous gift of £2, kindly given by Miss L. L. Dock towards the funds of the Society for State Registration of Nurses.

Miss Dock arrived safely at Montreal on 25th September, and during the voyage "got the skeleton of Text Book for Nurses (on venereal disease) all made out." Good!

THE SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Association was held this week to consider its future work, in furthering the more efficient education and State Registration of Trained Nurses. It is hoped that all those nurses' societies which are in earnest, and realise the necessity for better professional organisation, will unite into a very influential and forceful federation. Should the English, Irish, and Scottish registrationists band themselves together to effect legislation for the benefit of the public, the Registration of Trained Nurses by the State will soon be an accomplished fact, as there is no valid reason against it.

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