

The wards looked charming, and a great deal of thought, ingenuity, and taste had been brought to bear on their decoration. In one ward the doorway was converted into an arch of white and purple clematis, and opposite was a large silver tripod and basket filled with purple flowers, the effect of which was excellent. Then the pretty coloured shades over the chandeliers down the centre of the wards make them look very festive. Most pleasant of all, it was to hear the enthusiasm with which the patients, both men and women, spoke of the care and kindness which they received both by day and night. "A Happy Christmas, yes, indeed," said one old man, "it couldn't be anything else under the circumstances," and an old lady, beaming all over with pleasure and content, explained that it was the first time she had ever been in a hospital, but she should always speak up for them; as for the nurses, it was impossible for her to say enough about them.

The probationers sitting-room had been most beautifully decorated by their clever fingers, and in the place of honour over the fireplace was their cherished possession, a model of Miss Florence Nightingale, surrounded by sprays of almond blossom—not imported from Japan, as the uninitiated might suppose, but made by the nursing staff.

The whole building was thrown open for inspection, and most interesting were the new kitchens, just opened, with every convenience and labour saving appliance, for serving this great household. Attached to it is the bakehouse, where over 200 great loaves are turned out daily, and most appetising does the bread look and smell. Then there is the dairy, where all the milk is received, filtered, and sterilised, then run into great cans for delivery to the various departments. Here also the supply is tested daily to ensure that it contains its full complement of cream. The whole apparatus is most up-to-date and interesting. A delightful afternoon ended with carol singing in the wards.

The Christmas Entertainment at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by the Amateur Dramatic Club, took place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in the Surgery, to which a covered way was arranged from the Smithfield Gate. Mr. Harold Scawin, the Stage Manager, is to be congratulated on the excellent playing of the two amusing farces, "A Regular Fix" and "Vice Versa."

Acting on what we consider the unsound advice of the Local Government Board, Miss H. A. Clark has resigned her position as Charge Nurse at the Edmonton Infirmary. Miss Clark

was called upon to resign at a very heated meeting of the Guardians, for addressing a letter to the public press, which they considered "insubordinate." Apparently the Local Government Board supports the contention of the Guardians that they have a right to discharge a female officer with 14 years' faithful service to her credit for such an action. Here we disagree with it, and Beaconsfield's pithy saying, "Never resign," is sound advice to those required to do so unjustly. Much better stick to your rights, and be discharged.

Miss Clark has expressed sorrow for hurting feelings (the truth is so often unpalatable), and as she contends that she has committed no breach of duty she has asked the Guardians for a testimonial, and to be permitted to remain at her post until she obtains another appointment.

To this they agreed, having had, apparently, time to cool down since their violent attack on this nurse in the Board Room at a recent meeting.

One of the international delegates who attended the Women's Congress at Toronto last summer, said "Canada would be Paradise if one could get a glass of clean water." Indeed, it is a paramount duty of a Government to provide this essential of health and clean living. Just now typhoid has become epidemic at Montreal, where at least there are 3,000 sufferers. The *Times* correspondent writes: "Notwithstanding the fact that the accommodation in the hospitals is greatly overtaxed, the City Council seems unwilling to take steps to secure temporary hospitals, and there is naturally great indignation with the inactivity of the aldermen. A committee of citizens has been formed to open additional hospitals, while the Victorian Order of Nurses, through Lady Drummond, has undertaken to furnish all the nurses required." Nurses to the fore, as usual!—How indispensable they are to the community, and how up till now their conscientious wish to make themselves even more efficient than they are, through State Registration, has been calously ignored in England and Canada!

French nurses are much concerned to learn that the regulation uniform for the Army Nurses is to be a dress of black merino. They would not object if it were for outdoor wear, but apparently it is intended to be worn in the wards covered more or less by a linen overall with a white apron on the top. Both because it is unhygienic and on account of its ugliness the uniform is criticised.

Another point to which attention is drawn

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