

and not sickness is our natural state," and again, that "there are more people to pick us up when we fall than to enable us to stand upon our feet."

The *Canadian Nurse* states that the different missionary societies are now calling for more than fifty physicians—men and women—and twenty-six trained nurses.

The Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions for Nurses to carry comfort and healing to the sufferers in distant lands, says:—

"A trained nurse has a wonderful opportunity, not only along professional lines, but as a teacher of hygiene and ordinary care of the sick, as one who can train the natives to become nurses, and so help to overcome the stupendous ignorance and grovelling superstition that prevail so widely in Oriental lands.

"The medical missionary and the trained nurse, however, are needed on the foreign field not only in their professional capacity, but because they are able to overcome prejudice, to open doors for the message of Christ, and to incarnate that message in a way which is absolutely superior to that of the preacher or the teacher. There is a language which the whole human race can understand, and which carries a message that every one, sooner or later, desires to hear. The medical missionary is master of this unspoken tongue of the heart. He is welcomed in the home of the stranger. The fanatic Mohammedan allows him in the innermost harem; the Mandarin calls him to his palace, and the Brahmin leads him into his home. For the Christian physician and the trained nurse there is no chance to invest life that can compare for a moment in influence and power with that on the mission field."

The Annual Conferences of the Association of Nursing Superintendents of India, and of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, held at Benares in December last, and which are fully reported in the *Nursing Journal of India* for February, appear to have been most useful, practical, and interesting. Two important resolutions were passed, one drawing the attention of the Bombay Presidency Nursing Association to the injustice done to Indian nurses under their proposed constitution, by which, after three years' training in the nursing of women and children, they can only receive a midwife's certificate of one year's training, and a second to be sent to the Secretary of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association, drawing attention to points in which private nurses suffer from the present working of their Association. The special points mentioned are (a) Acceptance by the nurses of the Lady Minto Association of hospital posts, which would otherwise be filled by independent nurses, and (b) Booking midwifery cases ahead to the exclusion of those in previous practice.

Reflections.

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

Who is Mr. "Nemo"? That is just what all hospital secretaries would like to know. At the annual meeting of the Governors of the Cancer Hospital, Brompton, S.W., the Earl of Northbrook, who presided, referred to a mysterious anonymous gift of £5,000 received by the institution. His lordship said that a gentleman, who preferred to be known as Mr. "Nemo," went into Coutts' Bank, laid a sealed envelope on the counter, and requested that what it contained might be placed to the credit of the institution. When the envelope was opened it was found to contain five bank notes for £1,000 each.

The beneficent work of the Royal Berkshire Hospital extends far beyond the borders of that county, and brings relief to sufferers from Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Surrey, and even Wiltshire, and to remedy the lack of accommodation several additions, which will cost £20,000, are to be made. The foundation stone of the new building was laid last week with full Masonic ceremony by Lord Amptill, M.W. Pro. Grand Master of England.

Returning thanks for the welcome extended to him and the Grand Officers, Lord Amptill said that he was indeed glad to be associated with a work which was largely a memorial to the late beloved patron of their Order, King Edward VII., and mentioned the interesting facts that the gavel with which he declared the stone well and truly laid was presented by Sir Christopher Wren to Charles II. when the Stuart King laid the foundation-stone of St. Paul's Cathedral; and that among the coins deposited in the new foundation was the first and only penny bearing the effigy of King George V. issued during the present reign. The latter gift they owed to the kindness of Brother Ellison Macartney (Deputy Master of the Royal Mint).

At the annual meeting of the Derbyshire Hospital for Women we are pleased to note the encouragement given to the able Matron, Miss Thomas, and her staff, to whose work, said Dr. Lochrane, the saving of life was due in no small degree.

The Committee of King's College Hospital are appealing for a further sum of £150,000 to bring the building of the new hospital at Denmark Hill to a stage when it can open its doors to the many poor people of South London. With a view of making known what has been so far accomplished the press were invited to a private view on Saturday. The administration block is almost complete, and it is hoped when the hospital is built that it will be the best equipped that has yet been erected in England. The arrangements for dealing with casualty cases of all kinds—both accidents and cases of sudden illness—seem to be most effective. X-ray, dental, and children's departments are also provided, and a large and commodious section is

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)