

NURSING ECHOES.

It was a great Christmas Day—so said all the patients—especially the little people in hospitals and kindred institutions. Father Christmas appeared to be ubiquitous, as wherever we went there he was in scarlet and ermine, with flowing white beard, bursting with generosity. No wonder he was welcome, as he came burdened with all the most lovely toys and toothsome sweets. As for the Christmas trees, one just stood open-eyed and admired them. How the children could wait to have them dismantled we don't know. We wanted to nip off all their "refreshing fruits" and charming gifts without a moment's delay. But the Sisters said that the more prolonged the anticipation, the better the children liked it—which proves that they are very knowing little people indeed. "Only one Kisseem Tee a year! We wants it to go on and on for days and days," said one little toddlekins. So it was to go on glittering and blooming till New Year's Eve.

Many parties for the Nursing Staffs have been given in hospitals and infirmaries during the week, and many more are to follow. Guests are welcomed by the officials with the kindest hospitality, and much interest is thus aroused in their invaluable work for the poor.

Dr. Marcus Paterson, Medical Superintendent of the Brompton Hospital Sanatorium at Frimley, has just issued an interesting book on Auto-Inoculation in Pulmonary Tuberculosis, in which he gives an interesting account of the contending forces which rage round the focus of infection in a diseased lung, and the balance between the two opposing forces which constitute what is known as resisting power. This power is raised if auto-inoculations are induced, and lowered if they are too often repeated. The skill of the medical attendant is shown in the nice adjustment of these forces, and in the treatment of the disease Dr. Paterson believes in graduated work. It is a relief that excessive feeding is no longer considered essential in the treatment of phthisical patients. The result of administering three and a half to four pints of milk a day was, Dr. Paterson points out, that fat was deposited in the omentum, the free movements of the diaphragm hindered, excessive corpulence and shortness of breath resulted, and patients became unable to do the work which was the essential factor in their recovery. Dr. Paterson's plan is now to give his patients the quantity and quality of food which they can, when well, afford in their own homes, a method justified by results.

A FEW LITTLE WINDFALLS.

Magnificent gifts have been showered on many fortunate hospitals this Christmastide—and we congratulate one and all.

In memory of his daughter, the late Mrs. Maud Ashley, Sir Ernest Cassel has given £50,000.

Of this sum £7,000 is divided between the Romsey Nursing Home, Romsey, Hampshire; the Royal Hants County Hospital, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hampshire; the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, Lancashire; the Fleetwood Cottage Hospital, Fleetwood, Lancashire; the Lytham Cottage Hospital, Lytham, Lancashire; the Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor; and the Royal Sea-Bathing Hospital, Margate; and £31,500 goes to King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, on the understanding that it is divided among the institutions which receive grants from the Fund this year.

A communication to the Council of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, City Road, E.C., has been made by Dr. Barty King, physician to the hospital, of an offer by an anonymous donor of a sum of money to cover the entire cost of the re-building and enlarging of the out-patient department. The new buildings will include a lecture theatre, pathological museum, and research laboratory for clinical instruction and research in diseases of the chest. It is stated that the gift will amount to over £6,000.

Probate has been granted of the will of Mr. Joseph Withers, of West Ham Lane, Stratford, a pawnbroker, who left estate valued at £58,334 gross, of which £56,781 is net personalty. After generous benefactions to a number of institutions, he left the residue of his property up to £20,000 to the West Ham Hospital, and the balance equally to all legatees under his will, including charitable institutions.

Splendid good fortune has come to the Birmingham hospitals. Several benefit under the will of the late Mr. John Roderick, a well-known auctioneer and surveyor—viz., the General Hospital, £50,000; the Queen's Hospital, £10,000; the Birmingham General Dispensary, £1,000; and the Skin and Urinary Hospital, £1,000. After the payment of sundry other legacies, amounting to £70,900, the residue of the estate, which is estimated at £362,022, is left, as to half to the General Hospital, as to a quarter to the Queen's Hospital, and as to a quarter to the Birmingham General Dispensary. Mr. Roderick, who was in his eighty-first year, had been for many years a member of the board of management of the General Hospital; three beds in the hospital have been endowed at various times in memory of brothers of Mr. Roderick.

Mr. Charles Borradaile is the kind of friend every hospital would like to have, and the Gover-

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