

Now that medical and surgical science are so highly developed the retention of convalescing patients in hospital is strictly limited for two reasons. The upkeep of the beds is so costly that they cannot be maintained for convalescent cases, and there is so great a demand upon them that, of necessity, those patients on the road to recovery must make room for those in urgent need of treatment. Nevertheless, rest and care are necessary to complete many cures, and to meet this need the Lear Home of Recovery has been opened at West Kirby, where a large, well-furnished residence, standing in ten acres of grounds, has been placed at the disposal of the committee by Mr. John Elliot, of Hill Crest, Bidston. Patients are received who require more surgical and medical care than is ordinarily provided in Convalescent Homes, and it is the intention of the committee to extend this work as far as funds will permit.

THE HISTORICAL MEDICAL MUSEUM.

This extraordinarily interesting Museum, organised by Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, and opened on June 25th, at 54A, Wigmore Street, London, W., should on no account be missed by any who have an opportunity of seeing it. The beautiful new hall and galleries contain endless treasures illustrating the evolution of medicine and surgery from the very earliest times. The Hall of Statuary contains many fine and quaint representations of the Deities of Healing. The walls of the galleries are covered with water-colour enlargements of miniatures from early manuscripts on medicine, surgery, pharmacy, chemistry and botany. In truth, the remedies of those times appear to have been far worse than the disease. Very interesting are the pictures of nurses at their work as early as the thirteenth century. Midwives should make a point of studying examples of their craft from MSS. also of the thirteenth century, and the mode of conducting a Cæsarian section in the fifteenth century.

There are also grotesque models 300 B.C., of pregnancy, hydrocele, curvature, and many others. Chinese documents relating to symptoms and disease 200 B.C. A seventeenth century method of giving an enema shows that we have now but reverted to the old tube and funnel then in use. Medicine chests, belonging to Jenner, Wellington and the Pretender. The evolution of all kinds of surgical instruments; diplomas and documents. To mention these is but to name a very few of the vast collection of objects of interest in this unique museum.

We were most fortunate that Dr. L. W. Sambon himself showed us round the Hall of Primitive Medicine, and gave us most interesting descriptions of some tropical diseases, notably Pellagra, which he pointed out was to be met with in the neighbourhood of running water in distinction from Malaria, which was found by stagnant water. Like malaria, it was spread by fly carriers. Several cases of this disease have been discovered lately in England.

ST. MARY'S NURSING HOME, CHISWICK.

Chiswick is a residential suburb of London, of some historic interest. The great statesmen Fox and Canning died here, in Chiswick House; also the renowned Hogarth, serjeant-painter to the King George II., was buried here, and his house stands in one of the main thoroughfares. It has, however, other claims to attention, social and beneficent claims.

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"I should like to see it very much."

"It is well worth a visit."

"Yes"—musingly—"I must, I really *must* go and see it."

"You ought to see it. It is an immense place, so beautifully kept, and so well managed."

"Do you think," I said, tentatively, "we could manage to go together?" She was in town only for a few days, and had many engagements.

"Well, yes, yes, I *think* I could manage it," she replied good-naturedly, giving a quick mental survey of her plans.

We picked up another friend, took our seats on the top of the bus on one of the rare sunny afternoons of the year, and went to visit the picturesque building in Burlington Lane. A block of buildings would be, perhaps, a better structural term. It is under the able management and care of the Anglican Order of Sisters of East Grinstead, and serves three purposes.

1. *St. Joseph's Hospital for Incurables*. This has been in existence for many years, and offers accommodation in two large, airy and cheerful-looking wards to women and girls of the working class, besides separate accommodation for gentlewomen suffering from various forms of paralysis and chronic rheumatic and other crippling affections. Incurable disease! The term is full of sadness. The implication—broken, helpless lives! It makes a ready appeal to every human heart. But the comfort, the peace, the beauty of environment, the love, the freedom from care, together with spiritual privileges, which surround these poor victims, is the large compensation which they all enjoy. It is one of the happy signs of the times that we are everywhere looking to Dame Nature—whom we have slighted and neglected so long—for cures in many cases, and alleviations in all—her sovereign remedies of fresh air and sunlight. The wards of St. Joseph's Hospital are provided with generous window space, and in favourable weather the beds and couches are wheeled into the verandah, and out into the garden, that the occupants may derive the maximum benefit of these salutary gifts.

2. Here, also, in this "Harbour of Refuge" can any come who desire rest and quiet from the "madding crowd." Very comfortable quarters are allotted to "guests," with a charming

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