October 9, 1915

THE CRIPPLES' HOSPITAL AND COLLEGE, ALTON, HAMPSHIRE.

The First Medical Report recently issued by Mr. H. J. Gauvain, M.A., B.C. (Cantab.), the Medical Superintendent of Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital and College, at Alton, is a record of scientific and educational work of the highest order, both from a humanitarian and an economic standard.

A FOREWORD.

In a Foreword, the Right Hon. Lord Moulton,



Fig. 12.—W. R., AGED NINE. Suffering from spinal caries, associated with lateral as well as angular curvature. Fig. 13.—W. R., DISCHARGED. Disease arrested, lateral curvature arrested, angular curvature reduced.

P.C., K.C.B., F.R.S. (Chairman of the Medical Research Committee), says that "the Hospital is engaged in work which has strong claims to be regarded as the most useful of all types of curative work. The patients are children who have had the misfortune to contract tuberculosis early in life, in a form which must render them deformed and crippled, unless it can be successfully treated while they are still young. If it can be thus treated, growth becomes natural and all traces of the deformity can be obliterated, so that the children will be fitted to live an ordinary normal life. If it is not successfully combated, their natural growth will only emphasise their deformities and render them impossible of removal.

"But it is not only the aims of the treatment at this Hospital which make it worthy of support. The methods used are of the highest interest, not only to the man of science, but also to those who rejoice to see successful results attained by stimulating rather than supplanting the efforts of nature to defend itself from disease. At an epoch like the present, when the need of fighting

tuberculosis in all its forms is becoming universally recognised, lessons of the highest value can be gained from studying the principles of treatment characteristic of this hospital and the marvellous list of successes achieved thereby. . . . "I feel entitled to ex-

"I feel entitled to express my sincere belief that it stands among the first in point of efficiency, and that it is indeed worthy to receive the financial support it needs."

Those of us who have visited this institution and are conversant with its methods, feel entitled to support the opinion formed by Lord Moulton.

Report on the Medical Work.

Dr. Gauvain has done great service in presenting a Report which can be read and understood by the general public, as it is an intelligent general public on whom we must ultimately rely for stamping out avoidable disease. No claim to completeness is made, and, indeed, a detailed description of the work and methods by its technicalities would defeat, in this instance, its object of informing the general pub-

lic-so deeply interested in the work.

The hospital exists for the alleviation of the sufferings and the correction of the deformities of crippled children. Attention is principally devoted to the care of cripples suffering from tuberculous disease of the bones and joints, due to infection by the tubercle bacillus, because such patients are both the most numerous, the most needy, and perhaps the most neglected class of crippled children in this country.



