

A SOUVENIR OF THE SECOND LONDON GENERAL HOSPITAL, CHELSEA, S.W.

The Second London General Hospital has recently published a beautiful Souvenir of its work, which is most ably edited by Miss M. Woollaston, to whom we are greatly indebted for permission to reproduce the interesting illustrations.

In the foreword two objects are set forth as its *raison d'être*. "First, as a lasting memorial of the time most of our readers spent at 'Good old St. Mark's'; second, to provide funds for the Edith Cavell Homes for Nurses." The book is profusely illustrated with photographs of the hospital buildings, its wards, patients, staff, and many incidents in which some or all of these figure.

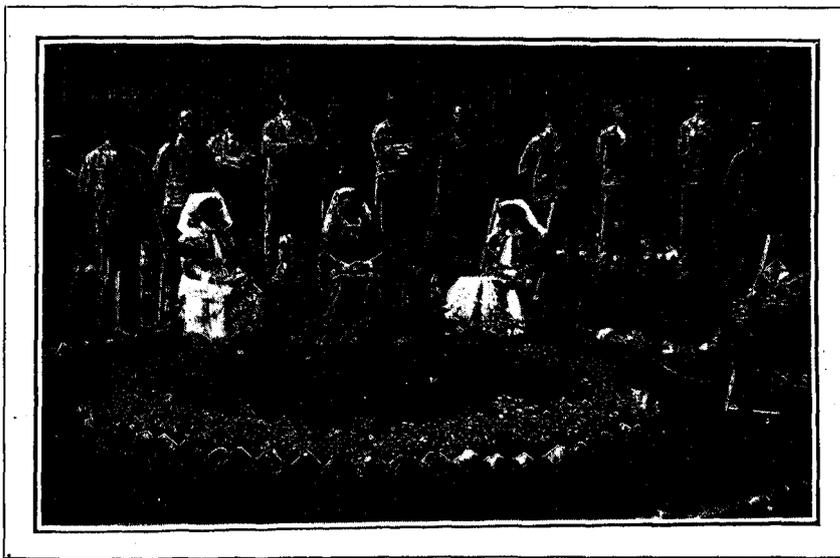
The letterpress consists of contributions from

to be *the* Photo. "Would we mind waiting while they powdered their noses and touched up their eyebrows." Judging by the loaded tables, they had a good deal in addition to the elaborate decorations to make merry with.

"Brownie" contributes a chapter from his own pen. From his picture it may be observed that he is a very intelligent little beastie and he makes shrewd comments on the nursing staff when they visit his mistress's office. They all think I am curled up and fast asleep, but I am laughing to myself and winking at them, only they can't see it." He observes that "Even the nurses who wear red round their capes are timid sometimes when they come to my mistress's room." He thinks going round the wards a "silly sort of game" and concludes by saying "I would not be a nurse for anything."

"Quiet moments" show that there are restful spots where toil-worn Sisters can escape from time to time.

We read that "a great deal of skill and time has been expended by the Patients of the Huts in the care of their gardens with the most excellent results; and the visitor, in going through them, is astonished at the very fine effects that have been obtained, in every case in such a short time. The gardens are a source of joy and pride to both the nurses and the patients, and there is a certain amount of friendly rivalry between the



PATIENTS' PRIZE GARDEN, SECOND LONDON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

visitors, patients, nurses and various well-wishers—not forgetting "Brownie," the Matron's dog. A bird's-eye view of St. Mark's gives some idea of the extent of the main building and huts forming the hospital.

Since 1840, it was known as St. Mark's College, and was occupied as a training school for teachers. At the outbreak of the war it was taken over by the military authorities for the Second London General Hospital (T.F.), and now, with the addition of huts, accommodates 5,000 patients, so it may be imagined there is ample material to make an interesting souvenir.

The first edition is ambitious—20,000; but the Editress hopes for a ready sale and a reprint at an early date.

The events of Christmas Day, 1916, provide a dozen excellent pictures of the wards during the festivities. The "boys" took the keenest interest in their photographs. Ward No. 8 was

several huts, with the inevitable result that all the gardens are, in whatever style they may have been laid out, as near perfection as can be expected." A friendly rivalry, not only between huts in one hospital, but between different hospitals, might be encouraged, and would no doubt prove a healthy stimulus and interest. Certainly the illustration of the Patients' Prize Garden of Hut No. 9 should incite others to effort.

"Buying a Kit" is a humorous paper. "When I look upon the two collar studs and a tie that I bought, I recall with grief the agonising struggle I had with the shopman who insisted I wanted to buy a bath, hunting crop, trench daggers, leather waistcoat, fur-lined overcoats, and other articles or scientific implements of war, for the total destruction of proud Prussia."

There is a series of clever "Sketches by a Sister" on service with the B.E.F. in France, "which

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