

arrangements, which was being incubated by themselves, or by their Matron. In particular, the extension of holidays was said to be 'under consideration.' We had hoped, therefore, that in regard to this reform at least, if not in regard to stopping the jangle about uncertificated Nurses, the Committee would have now 'dished' the reformers by announcing arrangements of their own. So far from this, it seems that they actually professed to have forgotten that they ever had any scheme at all: the chairman (Mr. J. H. Buxton) pathetically protesting against being called on to know or remember anything whatever out of his own head in regard to the work of his Committee, or of the Hospital. In fact, the policy of 'the free hand and the blind eye' was preached with no less unction than usual by these extraordinary obscurantists, who raise the cry of 'damaging the Hospital,' and 'stopping subscriptions,' whenever anybody else declines to share their own contented ignorance of every detail of the administration. The only good feature is the increase of interest and of anti-obscurantism on the part of the non-official Governors. We trust that Mr. Costelloe (who sits for the Hospital district on the County Council), Mr. Gedge (who is rector of a neighbouring parish), Dr. Kennedy, Mr. Baily, and the rest, will continue their efforts to let in light." I hope the *humane* element amongst the Governors will continue to demand these just reforms, until they are granted; and when they are about it, leave of absence from Saturday to Monday once a month should be given to the Sisters at the London Hospital; the Sisters of "Bart.'s" and Guy's have enjoyed this privilege for five years past.

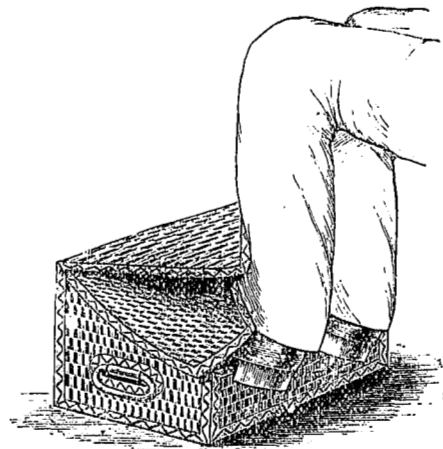
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THE lady students of the School of Medicine for Women, who receive their clinical instruction at the Royal Free Hospital, gave their annual Christmas entertainment to the patients and Nurses of that Institution on Thursday evening, the 17th inst. The lecture room was crowded to its utmost capacity, and amongst the audience were many members of the Committee of Management and of the Medical Staff. The programme consisted of tableaux and dramatic scenes, interspersed with songs. Where all was excellent it would be invidious to particularise, but we may mention the amusing scenes from "The Old Curiosity Shop," in which Dick Swiveller was represented, probably for the first time, by a lady medical student; "Pig and Pepper," a scene from "Alice in Wonderland," caused great merriment; scenes from "The Mill on the Floss," "Macbeth," and "The Winter's Tale," were well rendered in character. The

topical songs, written for the occasion, and sung by Miss Helen Green, especially one entitled "A Model Hospital," were highly appreciated by the audience. The students, when not engaged upon the platform, visited the various Wards in their character dresses, and entertained the patients who were not able to leave their beds. They also distributed grapes and sponge cakes to all who were allowed to partake of them. Both patients and Nurses were unanimously of opinion that the lady students had given them a most enjoyable evening's entertainment, and before the close of the proceedings Mr. W. T. Pritchard, the Chairman of the Committee, expressed their thanks in a few appropriate words. S. G.

INVENTIONS, PREPARATIONS, &c.

MESSRS. BENHAM & FROUD, LIMITED, of Chandos Street, Strand, the patentees of the "Brompton" Bronchitis Kettle, have still another novelty, which perhaps appeals more directly to the multitude than the one already named. Their patent foot-warmer, "The Comfortable," is indeed a boon to sufferers from cold feet, or invalids, as it embraces several points hitherto left unfinished by others of this description. First, the side on which the feet are placed is slightly curved, so that the feet are actually resting while on it. But most particular of all is the fact that one is able to enjoy an even, graduated heat from first to last. The inside of this warmer is coated with a non-conducting material on all sides, the side on which the feet rest being only slightly treated in this way, so that



there is practically no waste of heat; and that escaping is in so moderated a form that the heat remains in the water much longer than it would otherwise do. Their small size (No. 1),

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