

altered so as to make a light and airy "Home Hospital" capable of accommodating some fifty patients, and a full staff of nurses and servants.

So far it would seem that no special interest attaches to the opening of another small Hospital in London; it is only when we inquire into its object, and in what way it justifies another appeal to the Christian charity of our metropolis, that we begin to perceive the unique and remarkable character of its work.

Friedenheim is A LAST HOME FOR DYING MEN AND WOMEN: and it will indeed be news to many that it constitutes the only provision in London (with trifling exceptions) for *dying*, as distinguished from *incurable* cases, that are not of the pauper class.

Our Hospitals are for the *cure* of disease; and one of the sorest trials which the doctors and the nurses have to bear is the necessity of sending out patients in the last stages of illness to make room for others. There is no alternative; for beds cannot be occupied for weeks by those whose disease is mortal, to the exclusion of many others who might otherwise be cured: and yet what untold hardship lies here! How many poor sufferers (to take one class only) have had to leave our Hospitals for Consumption, with their comforts and care, to return to an empty room and most pinching poverty. Large numbers of these, though now homeless and penniless, have been in good positions all their lives, and shrink in their last closing days from being drifted off into the parish infirmary: a noble institution in its way, but erected for and filled by a different class.

Our Homes for Incurables are not for dying but chronic cases, that last for months and years; and we repeat, therefore, that Friedenheim occupies a position well-nigh unique. It is an endeavour to reach out a Christian arm of help to a neglected and forgotten class, and to fill a missing link in the wide circle of our Christian charity.

Seven years ago a Scotch lady came to London with the need of this one class so laid on her heart that she opened, and has maintained with the help of a few private friends till now, ten beds exclusively for dying people, for whom she has cared in every possible way, in body and soul, until the end. But her position became terrible. Although the house was private, so great is the need that out of every ten applications only one could be received; and we therefore felt the time was come to open what we trust will only be one of several such institutions, that will specially care for our greatly neglected class of dying men. With Sir Robert Phayre, K.C.B., as Chairman of Council; J. H. Tritton, Esq., as Treasurer, and a Council of seventeen well-known Christian men (seven being Hospital physicians), Friedenheim has been taken and paid for. The expense of alterations and furnishing (some £2,500) has not yet been defrayed; and as we are most anxious to open it on November 7th free of all debt, we take this opportunity, through your courtesy, of just making the want known: resting assured that, when the touching nature of this Home, its pressing needs, and its unique character have been grasped by the Christian public, they will not be slow in coming forward and generously supporting this arduous and self-denying work.

I would, therefore, firmly press this on the attention of your readers: that the sad condition of hundreds of these dying ones, in this city alone, claims and demands the loving practical sympathy of all those who are inspired by the love of Christ to help their fellow-men.—I am, Sir, yours very truly,

ALFRED T. SCHOFIELD, M.D.,

Chairman of the Executive Committee, and
Hon. Physician to Friedenheim.

Cards for the opening on Nov. 7th may be had from, and all Subscriptions and Donations may be sent to me, at 141, Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, W., or to the Secretary, Friedenheim, Swiss Cottage, N.W.

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