

BOOK REVIEWS.

Hospitals, Dispensaries, and Nursing. Papers and Discussions in the International Congress of Charities, Correction, and Philanthropy, Section III, Chicago, June 12 to 17, 1893. Edited by JOHN S. BILLINGS, M. D., and HENRY M. HURD, M. D. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. London: The Scientific Press (Limited).

Nothing could be more clearly indicative of the growing interest on the part of the public in charitable work, of the reaching out toward higher ideals in the care of the sick, and the development of scientific methods in hospital construction and management, than this volume, which represents the transactions of the Section on Hospitals, Dispensaries, and Nursing of the International Congress of Charities, Correction, and Philanthropy. The character of the papers and discussions speaks highly for the discrimination displayed in the solicitation of material. This volume covers in a practically complete way the entire field of the world's hospital work. In it may be found contributions from America, from England and Scotland, from Germany, from France, from Holland, from far-away Japan, and Chile. Studies of training-schools and hospital methods are made from the point of view of the physician, the trained nurse, the heads of church orders; hospital construction and the various details of management, by the physician and layman, the trustee, the superintendent, the accountant. Every branch of hospital organization, from laundries to diet kitchens, from accounting to ward administration, from building plans to the relation of hospital to medical education, may here be found treated of in a systematic and thorough manner. In the excellent address of Doctor Billings, Chairman of the Section, the change in later years in the attitude of the public toward hospitals, the much more frequent resort to them on the part of the people, and the growing confidence in their methods, are pointed out. The late Civil War is mentioned as a prominent factor in bringing about this change of sentiment. He emphasizes the importance of hospitals for contagious diseases, and mentions the evils of free dispensary work. In the opinion of the distinguished chairman, the increasing use of hospitals is an indication of the socialistic tendencies of the age. Lord Cathcart, a member of the Lords Committee on Hospitals, contributes a review of the medical charities of the English metropolis. As to the amount of work done in these institutions, statistics in reference to St. Bartholomew's Hospital are of interest. During one year 5,953 in-patients, 16,145 out-patients, and 142,745 casual patients were there treated. As in other parts of the world, so in London, the medical profession is overstocked. Competition is active, and quackery holds sway through dispensaries carried on in some reputable name, but managed by unqualified assistants. The author, in charming and somewhat satirical language, refers to the "ministering angel" point of view of nursing as imaginary, and asserts that nurses are not pious, pale-faced, and overworked, but a merry set of hard-working women, intelligent, but capable of gossip and grumbling. "Sentiment, often the salt of existence, is a factor more or

less in the pleasure derived during a hospital career; but sentiment is a personal affair." "Educational Standards for Nursing" is a subject discussed by Miss Hampton, Superintendent of Nurses and Principal of the Training School in the Johns Hopkins Hospital. A strong appeal is made for higher educational standards, more uniform methods of teaching, and lengthening of courses in training schools. "The Trustee of the Hospital" is discussed by Richard Wood, President of the Board of Trustees of the University of the Pennsylvania Hospital; and "The Relations of the Medical Staff to the Governing Bodies in Hospitals," by Dr. Edward Cowles, Superintendent of the McLean Hospital, Somerville, Mass.; "The Management of Hospitals," by H. Merke, *Verwaltungs-Director des Städtischen Krankenhauses Moabit*, Berlin; "The Relation of Hospitals to Medical Education," by Doctor Hurd, who points out the desirability of pathological institutes affording facilities for the study of every morbid product, clinical laboratories for examination of blood and excreta, operating rooms to which medical students should have access, photographic rooms, charts, histories, etc., all accessible for the use of the student. The importance of libraries and journal clubs is urged, and the increase in the medical staff of all large hospitals the author believes desirable. Miss Dock, Superintendent of the Illinois Training-School for Nurses, Chicago, contributes a paper on "The Relation of Training-Schools to Hospitals." Concerning the "Cottage Hospitals" of Great Britain, written of in detail by Francis Vacher, Medical Officer of Health for the County of Chester, England, it may be said that an illustration is here given of the scattering philanthropy too common in hospital work. During the thirty-three years of their operation, thirty-four have been closed for various reasons, and, as appears in the appendix, the average number of beds occupied in these numerous institutions is far below the normal capacity—not far from 50 or 60 per cent, it would seem, roughly estimated. The Tokio Charity Hospital, Japan, a report of the work of which is contributed by K. Takaki, F. R. C. S., Eng., President of the Tokio Charity Hospital, shows an increased admission during the ten years of its operation of from 157 to 472 for in-patients, and from 349 to 12,775 for out-patients—an interesting showing, as indicating that there, as here, hospital relief is more frequently sought for. A short sketch of the Chilean hospitals is given by Louis Asta-Buruaga, M. D., of Valparaiso. "The Hospital Care of the Sick, and the Training of Nurses at Amsterdam," is treated of in an excellent paper by Edward Stumpf, Medical Director of the City Hospital.

"The Montreal General Hospital" is described by W. F. Hamilton, M. D., C. M., Medical Superintendent; "The Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal," by John J. Robson, Secretary; "The Roosevelt Hospital," New York, by J. R. Lathrop, Superintendent; "The Johns Hopkins Hospital," by Doctor Hurd. Each of these articles is illustrated, the latter particularly well. Few articles will receive greater attention than that of Florence Nightingale on "Sick Nursing and Health Nursing." It is brimful of practical matter. It gives in a pointed, direct, and original way the qualifications of the nurse, and the dangers to be avoided in the training of nurses. What are these dangers? The distinguished author sums them up as follows:

1. On one side, fashion and want of earnestness.

2. On the other side, mere money-getting.
3. Making it a profession, and not a calling.
4. Above all, danger of making it book-learning and lectures—not an apprenticeship, a workshop practice.
5. Thinking that any hospital with a certain number of beds may be a box to train nurses in, regardless of the conditions essential to a sound hospital organization, especially the responsibility of the female head for the conduct and discipline of the nurses.
6. Imminent danger of stereotyping instead of progressing.

Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore contributes a paper on the "Work Done by Religious Communities Devoted to the Relief of the Sick." Dr. Matthew D. Field of New York an extremely important and interesting paper on "Detention Hospitals for the Insane." Rachel Frances Lumsden on "Nursing in Scotland." "The History of American Training-Schools" is given by Miss Irene Sutcliffe. "Midwifery as a Profession for Women" is treated of by Zepherina S. Smith, President of the Midwives Institute, London; and "Obstetric Nursing" by Miss Georgiana Pope, Superintendent of the Columbia Hospital, Washington, D. C. A paper on "The Nursing of the Insane" is contributed by Miss M. E. May of the Rochester State Hospital, Rochester, N. Y. This paper would seem to have been more properly placed in the Transactions of the Section on Nursing, Treatment, and Care of the Insane. Charles C. Savage, President of the Demilt Dispensary, writes of that institution. "Red Cross and First Aid Societies" are treated of by Mr. John Furley of London; "The Ambulance System of New York," by Mr. George P. Ludlam, Superintendent of the New York Hospital, New York; "Hospital Saturday and Sunday," by Frederick F. Cook of New York. "Naval Hospitals" are written of by Doctor Gatewood; and an excellent paper of much historical value upon "The United States Marine Hospital Service" is contributed by Doctor Stoner of Baltimore.

In this necessarily somewhat brief review space has permitted no more than brief reference to any of the above, and no mention at all of other meritorious contributions. The work justifies a far more extended notice, but enough, perhaps, has been written to encourage all interested in medical charities and hospital work to procure this interesting volume, of which but a limited edition has been published.

To add that the press-work and binding are by the Friedenwald Company of Baltimore is to commend both.

C. B. B.

New South Wales: Report for 1893 of the Inspector-General of the Insane.
F. NORTON MANNING, M. D., Inspector-General.

On the 31st of December, 1893, there were 3,425 patients on the register of the colony, an increase for the year of 113, thirteen in excess of the average for the preceding ten years, but less by sixty-five than the increase in 1892. The large increase (291) for the two years is attributed to general commercial depression, which, in addition to directly causing insanity, compels the commitment of demented and imbecile persons, whose maintenance their relatives are