

HOSPITAL SISTERS AND THEIR DUTIES.*

By Miss M. E. BUTCHER.

"Slumber not in the tents of your fathers; the world is advancing, advance with it."—Mazzini.

Now that it is all over the world of nursing, a fact becoming to be more and more recognized, that Hospital Sisters and Matrons must not only be born but made, and seeing the number who come to India to responsible positions with very little experience beyond their three years in training, the urgency of the need calling them to come quickly, the opportunities of further practical advance under guidance being denied them, at least here is a book that will help them, and it is not too big to take up an unnecessary long time to wade through.

"Hospital Sisters and their Duties" was primarily written for the London Hospital Sisters, but that does not take anything from the value of its general applications, written in a faithful and loving spirit, that brings back forcibly to the reader, in its condemnations, the things that we loathed as "Pros" and in its praises those that helped us to keep on in the unwonted tasks of a first year. In a work that is all so much to the point, it is difficult to pick out special points, but chiefly is insisted on the all importance of character to success: selfishness a complete bar to it. One of the most important traits to have, an ability to teach; it is taken for granted that no one will be appointed as sister who has not shewn herself a capable ward manager in a temporary capacity, but very great insistence is laid on the teaching problem, and on the interest a sister should take in those she has to train, and her ability to discern for herself who are suitable to train, and who are not in time to avoid disappointments. We know of no more useful book in its sphere. A quotation closing the chapter on practical training of new probationers, indicates the spirit it is written in,

"Be noble, and the nobleness that lies
In other men, sleeping but never dead,
Will rise in majesty to meet your own."

CONSUMPTION. HOME TREATMENT AND RULES
FOR LIVING.

By Miss M. E. BUTCHER.

The second edition of this little book,† to help on the anti-tuberculosis campaign is not intended to obviate the necessity of

* "Hospital Sisters and their Duties" by Eva C. E. Luckes, 4th edition. The Scientific Press, Southampton Street, Strand, 2-6 net.

† "Consumption. Home Treatment and Rules for Living," by H. Warren Crowe M.D. Published by John Wright and Co, Bristol.

an attending physician, but to supplement his work. And to provide in a handy form written rules for living for each patient, blank pages at the end are inserted to fill the needs of individual cases. There are '*pros*' and '*cons*' many in regard to Sanatorium treatment and doubtless there will remain for many years a large army of consumptives who will be trying a cure at home. For those who have the will power and a reasonable climate, these rules have every prospect of success, as one exhausted edition proves. These rules are what most people would expect to find, though wide differences of opinion are existent in the medical profession with regard to rest and temperature-taking; considerable harm may be done mentally, morally, and physically by so much concentration of the patient on his own symptoms; the rules are intended for a patient giving up his whole time to a cure, and one able to walk about. But surely the essential rules can often be carried out concurrently with some healthy work which would distract the patient's mind from himself, rather than confine the whole exercise to slow walking. Those who have not the will-power cannot carry out the treatment at home, and probably most cases requiring such an amount of care will now be treated in Sanatoria in England (those who cannot afford the luxury of a nurse) and be all the better for companionship and congenial surroundings. *Get the body to resist* is the whole tenor of the rules, and the expectancy of a cure its next best thought. A simple breathing exercise closes the book.

SANATORIA FOR THE PEOPLE.*

By MISS M. E. BUTCHER.

This is an explanation of the State's method of dealing with Consumption, on quite different lines from the previous review, *viz.*, the home-treatment. The writers argue very wisely that there are very few, at any rate of the working classes, with sufficient strength of will and knowledge of the subject to be able to arrange and continue their own cure unaided by some systematic schooling in the subject, and this is just what it is expected that the Tuberculosis Sanatoria will do. After careful selection by Dispensary examination, patients will be admitted, treated for a given time, gradually be re-introduced to work that will be increased in time till it approximates to their usual; in the mean time being taught how to live so as to complete their cure at home with a minimum of risk to their household while prosecuting their everyday calling. The sum allowed in the Budget works out as

* "Sanatoria for the People" by Charles H. Garland and Thomas D. Lister M.D. Scientific Press, Southampton Street, Strand, 1-0.net.