

Tree, and to sing their carols around it, at each of its Stations, for our Christmas Tree occupies several different positions, and serves to amuse several audiences. Indeed it bears more than one crop each year! Beginning in S. Margaret's Ward on Christmas Evening our patients always much appreciate it, and enjoy the little presents which are to be gathered for each one. This is always quietly happy without excitement, very different from the evening when the large tree is transplanted to the embroidery room a few days later on—for that being our largest room we usually pack away all work frames and implements, and vacate it for our home Sunday School. Santa Claus comes then, and looks very imposing in his white hair and beard and brilliant red coat! However, we must not anticipate too much, lest our MESSENGER fall into the hands of our little friends, and prevent the "surprises" which are a necessary ingredient in Children's pleasures. We only want to go just far enough to show our readers how many dolls, and toys, and bags of sweets we shall need to clothe that tree!

We have to acknowledge a gift from Mr. Lockhart, of great value to us; a hamper of beautiful large samples of cloth, capable of conversion into most useful articles of clothing for our poor children. Last week we fortunately had as a patient convalescing, a clever young mantua-maker from Murray's and many a hood and cloak, and little dress, came from her skilful fingers out of this capital bundle of pieces. To Mr. Millichamp also, we are indebted for a case of samples of various useful materials; buttons especially welcome, because we had so many new dresses needing them. If our kind friends could see what comes of all their contributions, we are sure that they would feel satisfied with the result.

Some of our Associates from time to time avail themselves of our beautiful Chapel, and quiet guest room, by taking a day from the world's busy work and pleasure to spend in retirement and devotion. It is a great pleasure to us when any one does this, and we know how great is the refreshment and revival of these quiet days. May we hope that the practice will spread to a much larger number than those who already thus use our house. We have a Celebration of Holy Communion always on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, at seven o'clock, and shall always rejoice to see an Associate in Chapel, and if she wish it, remain with us throughout the day, being present at the Hours, and with us in the Refectory

We can always supply some helpful meditation, and book of devotion if desired. Do, dear Associates of S. John the Divine, come apart now and then and spend a Quiet Day.