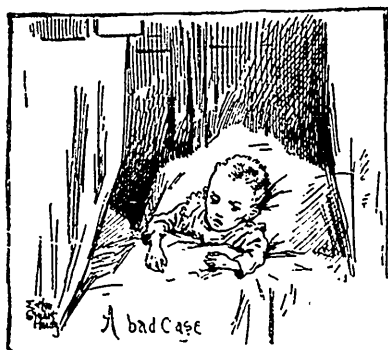


small wonder to find many cases of bronchitis. Two quiet young infants lay with the tent still round their beds, and two bronchitis kettles, judiciously arranged to



connect with the gas stoves, were in full operation; the little patients seemed free from pain; one had been saved from suffocation by tracheotomy, and the relieved, comfortable way in which the ward-sister told of their satisfactory improvement was very interesting.

Picture-books appeared in great favour in this ward, the boys being somewhat older than in the other divisions, and many able to read. There was, however, one most intelligent, bright-eyed little fellow, deaf and dumb, unable, alas! to benefit by the books, having had no instruction. His responsiveness to signs and his imitativeness are very unusual even in that imitative class; he writes a perfect fac-simile of any written words, but has no knowledge of their meaning.

In the large airy corridor there stood an ice-bin, everything everywhere being in excellent order and keeping. Looking out of the door which is the exit to the back of the hospital, the eye rests on a large open space well turfed over, and facing us rises the isolated building for infectious cases.

These are rarely any but measles, that being a disorder prone to develop itself several days after admission.

We went up to the second ward for girls, and there were some children here who looked as if they had been rescued from starvation. A few were crying somewhat querulously, tea-time being at hand, and the little things beginning to crave for their refreshment. There was one very satisfactory group in the middle of the ward. Four girls all dressed and ready to be transferred to a convalescent home in the country, whither one of the sisters was getting ready to escort them. I thought one or two of these seemed a little reluctant to go; but all were joyful and thankful, and fully alive to the benefit of their improved condition.



I am recalled by a little wailing cry to the remembrance that nothing has been said of one of the best features of the place—the ward for very young infants;—some bright and rosy, all tiny, some weak and wizened still, but, thank God, almost all with the look of returning health. But here, again, the pressure from without tells heavily. There were