

duce types of disease which—let us be thankful for it—have not as yet invaded our shores. Again the London climate, with its fogs and concentrated essences of all that is vile in the way of volatile, organic odors must in certain seasons of the year be very inimical to the health of those whom necessity compels to live in the older parts of the city. If this be true, nothing also can be more admirable than the numerous plans adopted to cleanse and purify the by-ways and lanes of the town. The difficulties in the way of efficient drainage, ventilation and water-supply are enormous, and one continually wonders not that he occasionally encounters dirt and mal-odors but that in this endless collection of cities of all ages and all degrees of enlightenment called London he meets in with so little mal-hygiene. If you will pardon my want of arrangement in this straggling letter I wish to say something about children's hospitals. Besides mixed hospitals for women and children, and the great general hospitals that all admit children, there are at least eight special institutions where infants and children alone are treated. Of these probably the Evelina, in Southwark, where Drs. Goodhart and Taylor are the physicians and Messrs. Howse and Clement Lucas the surgeons, and the hospital for sick children in Gt. Ormond St., are the chief. In the latter clinics are given by Dr. Barlow, Mr. Howard Marsh and several others. Life in London bears heavily upon the children of the poor, and the pallid faces and warped bodies of the little patients suggest C. L. O. ferruginous tonics and good nursing as eloquently as the additional special treatment may be indicated by a closer examination. One sees Sayre's apparatus in nearly all the wards, but I think I am right in saying that it is *rarely* used for spinal curvature. Putting the child to bed for several months, tonics, good food, etc., are the indications. One of the teachers in the Great Ormond St. Hospital took the ground that, whatever else it might do in the way of keeping the child quiet, or of assisting to support the back, it did not succeed in keeping the diseased surfaces of the bones apart, and consequently failed to accomplish what was first claimed for it. The patience and quiet demeanor which are exhibited in crowded streets and entertainments by the English people are reflected in the manners of those who are obliged to take advantage of hospital treatment. There is very little argument or explanation or persuasion employed to induce a patient to undergo an operation or to

follow this or that line of conduct. I have rarely seen an applicant do other than follow the precise direction of the physician or surgeon. It seems to me that, apart from the phlegmatic temperament of the average hospital patient, such a state of affairs speaks well for the profession, and indicates a confidence in its members which does not obtain everywhere.

The façades of nine-tenths of the London Hospital buildings proclaim the fact that they are "supported by voluntary contribution," and, with the exception of very old institutions like Guy's, St. Thomas' and St. Bartholomew's, which own large estates in various parts of the country, they all "are in want of funds" and some of them (Guy's, for instance) feel the pressure of diminished land values and have had to shut up some of their wards in consequence.

Although the Austrian and German system (where a patriarchal government furnishes the needful) is said to be superior to this, there is something more in keeping with the spirit of this, the best republic in the world, that the people should, from a sense of their inherent value, give directly to these charities.

It would be equally as impossible for me to describe within the limits of a few letters the internal management of each hospital as it would be to give you an idea of the abilities and teaching powers of the many eminent physicians and surgeons that attend them. However, if I say anything at all about the latter, I presume I am right in still regarding Sir Joseph Lister as *primus inter pares*. A kindly, almost diffident, old gentleman with a well cut good face, is he. He is still a regular attendant upon that institution in Lincoln's Inn which has given the world so many celebrated surgeons—King's College Hospital.

He seldom uses the spray with which his name is connected, but he took good care to impress upon us that it was necessary in such cases to exercise all the more care in other respects. He is now experimenting with a new antiseptic with which many of the wounds in his wards, surgical and otherwise, are being dressed. Lister's treatment of goitre is to cut down the tumor, and with a smooth-edged scoop remove the *interior* of the gland, which in this particular situation is not well supplied with blood. Antiseptic dressings are applied and the shrinkage of the gland cures the goitre. Lister's bandages, gauze, wool, etc., are now colored with aniline blue which is discharged