Apropos of my remarks last week about nurses and emigration, the following is an extract from a letter received from a nursing friend in Queensland, which may interest my readers:—"I have been private nursing for the last four or five months, and have got on very well. The work is rather different to what it is at home. The nurse has to understand many things which she is not required to know at home, where servants are plentiful and well trained. Here servants are scarce, and know about as much about working for invalids as they do about Greek. Then there are not the conveniences one has in England. But still, if a nurse is prepared to 'buckle to,' she will get on very well. I have been in a children's hospital for a short time. I have found the doctors very nice to work for."

HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

COMMUNICATED AND COLLECTED.

THE festival dinner of the West London Hospital was held on May 1st, at the Hotel Métropole, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge occupying the chair. Mr. Gilbert, the secretary, announced the receipt of contributions amounting to about £1,720.

An attempt was made on April 29th to blow up the small-pox hospital at Trooper's Hill, St. George, near Bristol. Fortunately very little damage was done to the building.

On Saturday afternoon last, the Duchess of Albany gave certificates to ladies who had passed an examination in a course of lectures on domestic hygiene, by Dr. Schofield, at the Parkes Museum. Miss Florence Nightingale, who was unable to attend through illness, sent a letter expressing her sympathy with the objects of the Parkes Museum.

A FESTIVAL dinner in aid of the funds of the Royal Hospital for Women and Children was held on May 2nd, at the Hotel Métropole. Mr. John Aird, M.P., was in the chair, and subscriptions amounting to about £1,000 were announced.

The following institutions have been benefitted by bequests, contributions, &c.:—University College Hospital, £100; Royal Free Hospital (Gray's Inn Road), £100; Hospital for Incurables (Great Ormond Street), £100. These were by the will of the late Mr. James Patsy. Hawick Cottags Hospital, £100, by the will of Miss Dickson, of Hassendeanburn. Mr. D. Wood, of Glossop, has left £19,000 to endow a hospital for the sick poor at Glossop, for the establishment of which he had already given £6,000.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY does a great deal of work in Germany, in peace time as well as in war. A committee of lady members appointed by it has the complete management of the Augusta Hospital in Berlin. This institution is open to three classes: the quite poor, second-class, and first-class paying patients. The wards for the poor are bright, airy, and scrupulously clean; while the rooms for the second-class are most comfortable, and the suites allotted to the first-class are quite luxurious. The building for the paying patients is quite separate from that for the poor, although standing in the same grounds. The extreme brightness and cheerfulness of the hospital greatly impresses all visitors. Children are admitted, and every possible arrangement is made, not only for their treatment, but also for their amusement. In summer, tents are put up in the gardens, and some patients for whom it is considered desirable live and sleep therein. The waiting, recreation, and sitting rooms, and wide light corridors are prettily decorated, and there is a most beautiful little chapel attached to the hospital for the use of the inmates.

Besides the hospital, the society manages the Augusta Stift, a large and well-conducted school, where the daughters of officers killed or wounded in battle receive a first-rate free education. The energy and practical good sense of the ladies' committee of the Red Cross Society is so much appreciated, that in times of emergency, such as that which occurred lately from the terrible floods in the Elbe district, it is specially asked to meet the gentlemen's committee of the society, and conjointly consult upon the best means to be adopted to alleviate suffering. Of course the part played by the Red Cross Society in time of war is now universally recognised and appreciated.

THE DUCHESS OF RUTLAND has just given a practical demonstration of the interest she takes in the temperance movement. Her grace travelled on Tuesday from Brussels arriving at Victoria at five minutes past eight o'clock. She drove at once to St. Mary's Hall, in Marylebone, where she had promised some time ago to speak; and notwithstanding the fatigue of the long journey, gave her address to the great pleasure and profit of a large audience.

MRS. ALEXANDER LOVELL gave a most interesting lecture upon "Health," at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, on the 26th ult. A large number of people were present, and frequently expressed their appreciation of the clever way in which the subject was handled. The lecturer specially dwelt upon the question of magnetism, and its power of maintaining

previous page next page