

£669 13s. 6d., as compared with £487 7s., an increase of £182 6s. 6d. The expenditure was £708 10s. 1d., inclusive of £27 5s. 7d. for wages and expenses of the District Nurse, and also of £19 5s. 1d. for those Nurses on probation. There was in hand £194 os. 10d. The amount in the bank on deposit account was £345 12s. The number of Nurses was now seventeen.

H. R. H. THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, Patroness of the Sanitary Institute, has graciously expressed her intention of being present at the first of the course of lectures on "Domestic Hygiene for Ladies," to be given on March 26th, at three p.m., at the Museum, 74A, Margaret Street, W.

### WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE *Lancet* reports that the General Committee of the Children's Hospital in Berlin, of which the Empress Frederick is patroness, met last Sunday in a room in the House of Deputies, under the presidency of Professor Virchow, who gave a report of what had been done. Thanks to the circumstance that the winter had set in late, the work had advanced so far, that parts of the building were already visible. The house for scarlet fever and diphtheria patients, and that containing the kitchen and the boilers, had already been begun. Of the sum of 700,000 marks (*i.e.*, shillings) needed for the building, 200,000 had already been collected, and it was hoped that this sum would soon be so much increased that it would be possible to begin the second house for patients, and the polyclinical department. The laying of the foundation-stone had been delayed owing to the absence of the Empress Frederick. There is to be a concert for the benefit of the Hospital next month.

WITH that sense of justice for which the Empress Frederick is so widely celebrated, she is ordering the whole of Princess Sophie's trousseau in Germany, chiefly in Berlin. All the same one cannot help condoling with the Princess, as the excellent German *frauen* are not celebrated for taste in dress as a nation.

MISS C. HOLKYNs ABRAHAMS, a Manchester lady, and a sister of one of the Professors at Owens College, has taken to scientific drawing. She can draw and engrave upon stone, microscopic botanical sections. As she is a certificated student of botany, the value of her work is greatly increased. For scientific drawing there is likely to

be an increased demand, and it would repay women very well to study this useful department of artistic work. In the Wards of our Hospitals, a Nurse with a thorough knowledge of anatomy, and a cultivated talent for drawing, might add greatly to her usefulness.

FROM Lancashire we hear that Miss Margaret Ashton, of Ford Bank, Didsbury, is working actively in various directions to influence the local ratepayers before the April election in the appointment of women as Poor Law Guardians. She calls attention to the fact that the greater number of paupers are women and children, or the sick and infirm, all of whom may be benefitted by the supervision of women who understand the feelings and ways of their own sex, the training of girls for service, the nursing of the sick in the Infirmary, and the details of domestic management. Many women of ability and experience, and well qualified to do the work which awaits them, are ready to come forward. Miss Hertz and Miss Wells are candidates for the Charlton Union, Mrs. Tolmé for Salford, Mrs. Bleakley for Prestwich, Miss Chesworth for Barton, and Mrs. Hyland for Manchester. The official position of the Matrons of our Workhouse Infirmarys is a subject of extreme interest, and one which lady Guardians will tackle before long, as the feeling of dissatisfaction on the part of women holding these posts is becoming very strong.

A PUBLIC meeting in support of the Parliamentary Franchise Bill took place on the 7th inst., at the Westminster Town Hall. A resolution expressing satisfaction that Mr. Woodhall had obtained a favourable place for his bill, and pledging the meeting to use every effort in support of the action of the parliamentary leaders to secure the success of the measure during the present session, was carried. The women speakers included Mrs. Fawcett, Clara, Lady Rayleigh, Miss Becker, and Mrs. Ashworth-Hallett. A memorial to Lord Salisbury was adopted.

IF any method could at this important time wreck the Women's Franchise Bill, it would be the unbridled licence of speech indulged in by women professing Liberal politics. It is a sad augury for the future. What we want women to bring into the public service, is the refining influence of gentle speech, and more the qualities of self-forgetfulness and compassion, for which they have been for centuries celebrated in the home circle. If public service is to breed a race of viragos, one can hardly wonder at the opposition of many wise men to seemingly just reform.

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