

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

ON the 7th inst., H.R.H. the Princess of Wales laid the foundation stone of the New Hospital for Women, in the Euston Road, and was addressed by Mrs. Garrett Anderson, the founder of the movement. The Prince of Wales, replying for the Princess, expressed heartfelt sympathy with the alleviation of women's ailments by woman herself. Many distinguished persons were present, notably, the Archbishop and Mrs. Benson, the Marchioness of Dufferin, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. de la Cherois, and Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D.—well-known Lady Doctors associated with the Institution. Rukmabai, the Indian child-wife, who successfully resisted the attempts of her husband to force her to live with him, was presented to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Lady Dufferin spoke kindly to her for some time—a pleasure the girl quite appreciated, for Lady Dufferin is more beloved in India than the wife of any other Viceroy, for her exertions on behalf of the women of India.

UNDER Royal patronage, and at the immediate suggestion of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, a rather singular flower-show will be opened during the present art season at one of the minor picture-galleries. The room in which the exhibition takes place will be handsomely and artistically decorated by *real* flowers of every variety; but the chief objects of interest will centre in a large collection of flower-pictures from the experienced brush of Miss Ada Bell, a young lady artist who has been devoted for some years to this department of art, and has been a regular contributor to the Royal Academy and Grosvenor Gallery. Her Royal Highness, who has purchased several of Miss Bell's works, takes a deep interest in her progress. No day has, as yet, been fixed for the opening of this interesting show, but it will most probably take place on the Queen's Birthday, when it will be announced under the title of "The World of Flowers."

THE statue of the Queen in the Examination Hall of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons is to be unveiled by the Prince of Wales, at noon, on the 24th instant.

By the kind permission of Lady Dudley a special meeting will be held at Dudley House, on Wednesday, May 29, on behalf of the Hospital for Sick Children in Great Ormond Street. At the assembly in question, there will be a free discussion as to the best means for getting the £13,000 wanted to finish the building, as well as the £2,000 necessary to carry on this good work

during the current year. The meeting at Dudley House will be followed by gatherings in the drawing-rooms of several ladies interested in the undertaking. All the same, sincerely as we wish the movement success, there should be no talk of erecting fresh Ward accommodation upon the present site, until every effort has been made by the Committee of Management to ascertain the reason of the constant outbreaks of diphtheria, which have lately occurred in this Hospital, and for which it is at present closed. Money is of little account in comparison with human lives; therefore, if the drains are not in a perfectly sanitary condition, they should be thoroughly overhauled; and if money is needed, it will doubtless be forthcoming for so necessary an object. What mother would not contribute to make the Children's Hospital healthy, where these precious little ones may go in safety?

MRS. FAWCETT is making a tour in Ireland. She is visiting the north-western district, and is making special investigations into the industries which are carried on in that part of the country.

LADY MOUNT TEMPLE contributed a paper on "Woman's Work in Sanitation" at the meeting of the Health Congress, held last week at Hastings. Miss Chreiman initiated a discussion on physical culture of the young on the same occasion.

THOSE women who wish to see the defects in our present Hospital system briefly and plainly put forward, should obtain a copy of a petition to the House of Lords which the Charity Organisation Society is promoting, together with a valuable memorandum giving lengthy details on the same subject. The petition asks for a Select Committee to inquire into the whole subject of Hospital management, including present Provident Dispensaries and Infirmaries. Among the faults noted are indiscriminate admission of in-patients, treatment of crowds of out-patients without inquiry, the discouragement of Provident Dispensaries whenever free Hospital doctoring can be obtained, unfair handicapping of local practitioners, absence of distinction between Hospitals and Poor Law Institutions for aiding the sick poor, and last, but not least, the serious deficits in the yearly accounts.

THE *Queen* publishes the following intimation:— "Although the formal official opening of the new premises of the Working Ladies' Guild, 251, Brompton Road, S.W., cannot yet be fixed, we

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