

the recent Post-card Examination Competition "Antiseptics in Surgery," by E. Stanmore Bishop; "Low's Handbook of Charities," and "Norris's Nursing Notes."

A NUMBER of Annual Reports of Institutions, &c., have reached me, among them being (a) the Second Annual Report of the United Kingdom Branch of the National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid to the Women of India, *i.e.*, the Countess of Dufferin's Fund, which is excellent reading, being a record of a most important work that cannot be too highly commended. (b) The First Annual Report of the Queen Victoria Nurses' Institute (Welsh Branch) for providing Trained Nurses for the sick poor in their own homes, which, practically under the able direction of Dr. Sheen, of Cardiff, and Miss Heath, the Lady Superintendent, has all the elements of successful work in it. (c) The Nineteenth Annual Report and statement of accounts of the Staffordshire Institution for Nurses (Miss Shirley, Lady Superintendent). The number of Nurses on the staff is one hundred and two, and no less than £3,514 was earned by them in 1890. One satisfactory feature of the accounts is that they have been certified by a well-known firm of chartered accountants.

(d) THE Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Queen's Road, Chelsea. This is almost a volume, and during 1890, nine hundred and seventy-eight children were admitted into the wards, whilst no less than fifteen thousand four hundred and fifty-one received treatment as out-patients. This is an important wholesome work that cannot be too highly praised. Four new "cots" were added. The accounts of the Institution are also vouched for (as every public Institute's accounts ought to be) by well known chartered accountants. (e) The Seventy-first Annual Report of the Essex and Colchester General Hospital. This is the Hospital occasionally favoured with anonymous donations of sums of £1,000. A special fund, "The Ladies' Mothers' Fund," is a successful item. Five hundred and eighty-eight in-patients, and one thousand eight hundred and fourteen out-patients had attention during the year.

(f) THE Sixth Annual Report of that useful and excellent little institution, the Santa Claus Society, is also to hand, and the year's work given is decidedly satisfactory, and shows progress. Even this little society, with an income of £65 13s. 8½d., can manage to secure the services of a chartered accountant. The balance in hand

is £22 10s. 11d., which is decidedly creditable, considering the amount of work done. The Manageress and Secretary, Miss Janie F. Charles, makes an appeal, to which she is fully entitled, for further help, and particularly mentions the Doll Dressing Competition, for which further members are required. In the convalescent branch—which shows a credit balance of £2 7s. 1½d.—free letters for Convalescent Homes, and donations in money to pay for beds at Homes and to defray railway fares and other expenses of the very poor patients, are required. The rules and regulations of the two Doll Dressing Competitions will be forwarded by Miss Charles to anyone sending three-pence in stamps to Stourmont, Hampstead Lane, Highgate, N.

THE Edinburgh School of Cookery and Domestic Economy, Limited (Miss Guthrie Wright, 2, Lansdowne Crescent, Edinburgh, Hon. Sec.), is issuing a prospectus of a most worthy and useful enterprise. Miss Guthrie Wright mentions that (1) As to the work, we are continuing all our present business, and *in addition* have arranged this special training for a 'Housewife's Diploma,' and also intend to develop evening technical classes. (2) Financially, we are really only raising money to purchase the house. We take with us to the new scheme about £2,000 for the benefit of the work, and we shall not pay more than five per cent. on the money raised, anything further being used as indicated. (3) We have had a distinct demand for a boarding house in connection with our school; and the scheme of a specified training has succeeded elsewhere, and we expect it to succeed here, especially as we have fifteen years of successful experience as a school to begin upon." Anyone who has £5 to invest cannot do better than send for a prospectus and application form. The list of subscribers is already a formidable one, and the security for the investment appears healthy and safe.

No. 1 of the *Nurses' Journal*, the new quarterly journal (price sixpence, but free to members) of the Royal British Nurses' Association, is interesting and well produced, reflecting every credit upon its editors. Being strictly a journal of the Association, it naturally contains much that is valuable to its members. From its "Editorial" I cull the following:—

"The Association owes much in its first inception to the aid of the *Nursing Record*, which consistently and unremittingly fought its battles, discerning from the first the great future that lay before it, and the important factor that it must become in the Nursing world. The public, however, has not discriminated between the official proceedings of the Association as reported in that Journal, and the editorial comments

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