

Miss DOLAN, the Rev. G. E. ASPINALL, J.P., chairman of the Infirmary Committee, Mr. WM. WILSON, chairman of the Board of Guardians, and Mr. J. W. TILLOTSON and Mr. HODGSON, members of the Infirmary Committee. The hall had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by the Master and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. KIPPAX. In the Hospital the visitors were welcomed by Miss WILKIE, the skilled and amiable Lady Superintendent.

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TEA was served in the dining-hall, and afterwards the children—thirty-two boys and more than twenty girls—visited the Savile Park athletic sports, in charge of the Matron. The young people will shortly be taken to the seaside, probably to Southport, by the Chairman of the Board. During the afternoon Messrs. WILSON and BEVERLEY'S band played selections in front of the Nurses' House, and Mr. HARPER gave selections on the organ in the dining-hall—a handsome instrument, which was presented by the Rev. G. E. ASPINALL. All refreshments left were sent into the wards for the sick.

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THE 15th annual meeting of the Zenana Medical College, 58, St. George's Road, S.W., was held in Kent House, by kind permission of LOUISA LADY ASHBURTON, on July 21st, when there was a good attendance. An interesting report was presented by the hon. sec., Dr. GRIFFITH. Since the work was founded by him 125 students had passed through the College, six entering and five leaving during the present year, ending 30th June last. Since the maternity department had been taken up, the Matron and Students had successfully "attended," no fewer than 1,430 midwifery cases of the poorest women in the vicinity of the College. But the great work is that of medically preparing ladies to be foreign missionaries, to go to eastern lands, where only women are permitted to attend upon women and children. The course is a shortened curriculum of two years, whereby the most essential information for the cure of the prevailing diseases in the east is imparted, with results quite beyond the most sanguine expectations—*e.g.*, the report comes from Miss RAINSFORD, Narowal, India, that last year she had 11,540 cases at her Dispensary; from Miss BIRD, at Nollegal, South India, who had no fewer than 11,600 cases, and Miss BOSE, a native Brahmin Christian Hindu Lady, trained at this College, and now near Amritsar, India, had just over 9,500 patients last year. Miss SUGDEN, home on furlough from Hankow, China, has established a Hospital, two

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Dispensaries, and a Medical School to train natives. It would require volumes to describe all the good she has been enabled to do. Only last week Miss GAMBLE returned from Ceylon, where in five-and-a-half years she has relieved 22,000 patients. We think no further testimony is needed to show the efficacy of the two years' training and the good work the College is doing. It requires more paying students and more subscribers for scholarships.

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AN examination of the report of Lady Dufferin's Fund, just issued, says the *Manchester Guardian*, conveys some idea of the difficulties under which the attempt to supply female medical aid to Indian women is carried on. Most of the Dispensaries and Hospitals are crippled for want of funds, and in one case the lady doctor has to find almost all the medicines out of her own pocket, the grant for the purpose being utterly insufficient. Differences of language, race, and creed form another complication. At Shahjahanpur the native hospital assistant in charge of the female wards "reads and writes only Hindi, and there is only one compounder who can read her prescriptions." In some districts great difficulty is experienced in obtaining Hindu compounders and nurses, or even Hindu girls who can write, without which accomplishment it is, of course, impossible to train them as efficient compounders. Then there is the difficulty of keeping up strict "purdah," or seclusion, for the high caste patients. Apprehensions of laxity in this particular keep many women away from the hospital; they consider the protection of a male relative necessary, and in one case it is gravely proposed to subdivide and enclose the verandah and compound attached to the woman's ward in order to provide shelter for male relatives while maintaining due privacy. It must require much tact and perseverance to carry on medical work in face of such obstacles and of the almost universal prejudice of the people; and the cordial approbation with which the reports speak of the energy and perseverance of the lady doctors is probably thoroughly justified. The "inefficiency and unpopularity of the female hospital assistant" mentioned in one branch report is apparently a striking exception to the rule. Progress is being made, though slowly, in gaining the confidence of the native women. In one hospital "a very much better class of patients now attend than did last year." A hospital assistant reports that the number of high-caste women who require her attendance at their own homes is increasing. The lady doctor in charge of the Victoria

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