

one involved in this dispute has been actuated by the best of motives, however ill-judged their action may appear to unprejudiced outsiders.

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It is intended to hold a monster bazaar in aid of the funds of Sir P. Dun's Hospital, at Ballsbridge, Dublin, during May next. The President of the Hospital Stall offers four prizes, viz.: for the best made lady's night wrapper, prize of 25s.; for the next best, prize of 15s. For best made pinafore, to fit child of seven, prize of 15s.; for the next best, prize of 8s. Competitors to send in their work before Feb. 7th, 1895, to Miss HUXLEY, Sir P. Dun's Hospital, Dublin.

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THE second annual meeting of the American Superintendents' Association has been convened at Boston, U.S.A., for February 12th and 13th, and we do not doubt it will be a most interesting one. We hope, next week, to give some notes concerning the constitution of this Society.

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AMERICAN Nurses are up and doing, and Nurse's Clubs are springing up in all the leading cities. The *Trained Nurse* reports:—

"A Nurses' Club will soon be added to the other social organisations of Philadelphia, as a result of a meeting of the Alumnae of the Philadelphia Hospital, held October 27th. The need of such a club for the young women who have prepared themselves for a life work of nursing has become more pronounced with the graduation of each succeeding class from the hospital. Miss Marion Smith, chief Nurse at the Philadelphia Hospital, and President of the Alumnae Association, made a trip to New York, to learn all she could of the club there and its methods. Miss Smith reported the results of her observations at the meeting, and proposed the formation of the club. Her proposal was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and 55 members out of 59 present joined the club on the spot. Mrs. J. R. Hawley, wife of United States Senator Hawley, and a former Nurse at the Hospital (it will be remembered that this lady accompanied Miss Alice Fisher from England, when she was invited to inaugurate a training school at the Philadelphia Hospital some ten years ago), was chosen president, with Mrs. S. S. Ladd, as Secretary and Treasurer. The dues were fixed at \$10 a year, and it was decided to limit the membership to the graduates of the Philadelphia Hospital. It is proposed to have the club house in a central location, somewhere between Ninth and Seventeenth Streets and Arch and Pine Streets. The house is to be fitted up with reception rooms, library and dining rooms, and meals will be served at regular hours by a caterer. One great feature of the club house will be a Hospital Room for Sick Nurses. The projectors are very anxious to have this free or endowed. A majority of the rooms are to be kept for permanent guests, but a few will be reserved for transient Nurses. A graduate Nurse is to be in charge. There are at present 175 graduate Nurses from the Philadelphia Hospital, many of whom are widely scattered. It is hoped that all may be induced to join the new club.

THE GRAFTON GALLERIES, Grafton Street, W., is admirably suited for Hospital Banquets, Receptions, Parties, Conversations, &c. The Hall is hung with the famous pictures of the Dilettanti Society, and can hold 200 Guests and the Galleries from 500 upwards. For particulars apply to the Secretary, 8, Grafton Street. The Catering is under the sole direction of V. BENOIST, 36, Piccadilly, W.

## Medical Matters.

### INFECTIVE PNEUMONIA.



A French contemporary recently published an important case in which a man suffering from inflammation of the lungs developed a swelling of one knee, due to effusion into the joint. Some of the fluid was removed, and was found to contain the bacillus which is regarded as typical of Pneumonia. Experiments made with the fluid by inoculating a mouse with one drop, showed that the animal speedily died of that lung disease. It is not unusual for patients suffering from pulmonary inflammation to develop inflammatory conditions in other organs, and it is known that, in some cases, inflammatory effusion into one of the larger joints occurs. It would seem that such cases are rather of the nature of blood poisoning, and that the secondary affection is limited to one or two joints, for some reason which is not at present clearly understood. The fact proves the importance not only of modern bacteriological examinations, but also of most careful observation on the part of the Nurse, in cases of pneumonia, and especially those of a low type, as to any secondary trouble which may occur; because it has been known to happen that a joint-swelling overlooked, and therefore neglected, has progressed onwards to distinct suppuration, with the result that, finally, amputation of the limb had to be performed.

### NEW DANGERS.

The public is acquiring a holy horror of modern science, inasmuch as it is constantly discovering hidden and hitherto unsuspected powers of evil. One popular pleasure after another has been attacked by scientists on the ground of their revealed danger, and quite recently it was proved to demonstration that kissing was a most poison-bearing form of greeting. Now an American physician has drawn attention to the probability that both coal and gas may be the cause of many cases of obscure poisoning. He points out that arsenic is a considerable constituent of coal, and that there can be no doubt that it must be liberated in the form of vapour during the process of combustion, from which it follows, also, that ordinary gas contains a considerable quantity of this deleterious product. Given arsenic in the atmosphere to any marked extent, and the argument is simple that it will be inhaled into the lungs, and that some of it may, therefore, be absorbed from the mouth. The observer in question has been investigating the quantity of arsenic excreted by persons suffering from obscure diseases, and he has found that in many of these cases a large amount

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)