

proper and efficient Nurses for the sick poor and others.

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A grand fête and sale of work was held at Riddell in aid of the Lilliesleaf District Nursing Fund. The opening ceremony was performed by Lieut.-General Sprot, who was accompanied by Mrs. Sprot and their family. General Sprot said as there were many present who were comparative strangers, he thought it would be well for him to give an outline of the history of the Lilliesleaf Nursing Association. Many of them would remember how, not so long ago, Mrs. Sprot was prostrated on a bed of sickness and unable to move, and that, in spite of all the attention of Nurses who ministered to her comfort, it was nearly a year before she could be removed from her bed. While she was thus on her couch, imprisoned, she could not help thinking, if this was her lot, how different indeed must be the lot of those who were unable to obtain the comfort and relief of Trained Nurses which fortune had given her. She thus determined to make use of the opportunities given her of alleviating the sufferings and sickness of the community, and to do what she could to help others. She called on most of the influential persons in the parish, and proposed to them to start in the winter months an association of women who could assemble once a month and prepare work to be afterwards sold, to form a fund for the purpose of engaging a Nurse in times of sickness in the parish. A committee was formed, and the suggestion was carried out.

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The Fête was charmingly carried out and proved most attractive. A gaily decorated Maypole had been erected in an open space, and soon the Maypole dancers, in the persons of a number of prettily dressed little girls, made their appearance, and went through their graceful performance, under the superintendence of Miss Sprot. This was repeated several times during the afternoon, and each time the youthful dancers were greeted with loud applause. They had been trained by the Misses Sprot and Miss Waller, and the way they went through the various figures showed the great care and attention that had been bestowed upon them.

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One of the great attractions of the afternoon was a series of tableaux-vivants, which were held in a shady grove close beside the house. The living pictures were the centre of much interest, and the costumes and general get-up of the figures were very realistic. The business of buying and selling went briskly on during the whole afternoon, and at the close it was found that the total drawings, including money taken at the gates, amounted to over £80.

## Medical Matters.

### ADDISON'S DISEASE.



THIS is the name usually given to tubercular disease of the supra-renal capsules, the small body which exists at the top of each kidney, in consequence of the fact that the first accurate description of the malady was given by the distinguished English physician of that name. The disease is characterised by a gradually increasing weakness and loss of flesh on the part of the patient, together with various symptoms due to nerve disturbance, such as attacks of vomiting from irritation of the nerves of the stomach, or attacks of faintness from irritation of the nerves controlling the heart's action. Finally, after a longer or shorter period, the surface of the body of the patient becomes markedly darker than natural, and dark patches show themselves on various parts of the skin. Then the weakness and darkness of the skin increase, and the patient frequently dies suddenly from heart failure. The disease hitherto has been regarded as almost invariably fatal, once it is thoroughly established; but recently, attempts have been made to treat it by the administration of an extract of the supra-renal tissue of other animals. So far, the results which have been obtained are surprisingly good; patients who have suffered severely from the complaint for many months have recovered strength and colour, have gained flesh and have lost both their nerve disorders and even to some extent the darkening of the skin. This treatment is, of course, only an extension of the same principle which has led to the use of extract of the thyroid gland in diseases affecting that organ. But should it prove that the supra-renal extract is a trustworthy curative agent in all cases of Addison's disease, medical science can, at any rate, congratulate itself upon one more victory over disease and death.

### MEDICAL COINCIDENCES.

A RECENT article in a medical contemporary calls attention once more to the curious coincidences which occur in medical practice, and which are by no means unknown to Nurses. The writer of the article to which we allude, states that the only cases of glanders which he had seen in the human subject were two in number, they were quite independent of each other, and both consulted him within one week. On one evening, a surgeon, who for some time

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