

same way, one Sister being placed in charge. Imagine a civil hospital conducted on these lines! It is regrettable that this Order which according to the design of St. Vincent de Paul should have been almost of a lay character, should gradually have followed the example of other Religious Orders, the RULE being placed before the need to progress with the times. Conservatism dies hard, and nowhere harder than with the religious orders, the members of which lose touch with the outer world and often develop an intolerance of progress of any kind. This attitude of mind, however, resembles the dry rot of a material building, and inevitably brings about ultimately the downfall of any society which harbours it. It cannot be too strenuously combated. We note with satisfaction that in 1899 a new departure was happily made by the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, with a view to obtaining definite professional instruction for those of their number who desire to devote themselves seriously to nursing as a profession, and to enable them to obtain a diploma, so that we may hope that this Order will carry out the original intention of its founder, and ultimately rival its well-trained lay colleagues in capacity.

(To be continued.)

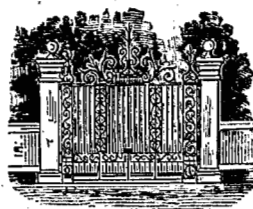
## New Preparations, Inventions, etc.

### THE GRIFFIN BRAND UNSHRINKABLE UNDERWEAR.

Everyone knows the comfort of pure woollen garments worn next the skin; at the same time most persons who consider economy wear a union material of silk (or cotton) and wool, because they find that in the hands of the average laundress garments of wool alone shrink, and consequently become useless. To such persons we recommend a trial of the Griffin Brand of Unshrinkable Underwear, in which all kinds of garments, made of pure wool, for ladies', gentlemen's and children's wear are obtainable. They are finished by a new process, and are found in use to be unshrinkable. As a proof of the authenticity of this assertion we need only mention that any garment bearing the mark of the "Griffin Brand of Unshrinkable Underwear" will be exchanged by the makers if it becomes too small for the wearer by shrinkage after ordinary careful washing. Another objection to woollen underwear is that it usually becomes matted as well as hard and stiff after a few washings, and consequently impervious to perspiration. The Griffin Underwear remains permanently elastic, and, therefore, has not this disadvantage. We cordially commend it, therefore, to the attention of nurses, who, owing to the fact that they move much about, are subjected to great annoyance in connection with the shrinkage of woollen underclothing in the course of its treatment at different laundries. The Griffin Underwear may be obtained from the leading drapers, or from the makers, Messrs. F. and W. E. White, Loughborough.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



The lectureship in English Language and Literature at the Bedford College for Women (University of London) will be vacant at the end of this session. Application must be sent by May 11th to the Secretary of the College (Baker Street, W.), from whom all

information can be obtained.

At a recent dinner held at the National Liberal Club, in celebration of the Australian Commonwealth, Sir John Cockburn replying to the toast dwelt on the democratic nature of the Commonwealth. Never had any Legislature, he said, been based on such broad and liberal principles as the Federal Parliament would be. Both the Senate and the House of Representatives were to be elected by the people voting as a whole. There would be manhood suffrage, one man one vote, and in Western Australia, at any rate, one adult one vote. He had no doubt the second Federal Parliament would be elected by women as well as men in all the colonies.

An address of condolence to the King has been signed on behalf of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland by the president, the Hon. Mrs. A. T. Lyttelton, and by the presidents of the branches.

The ladies upon whom the University of St. Andrews is to confer the degree of Doctor of Laws at the forthcoming graduation ceremony are sisters—Mrs. Agnes Smith Lewis and Mrs. Margaret Dunlop Gibson—who have done great service to scholarship in the department of New Testament and Early Christian literature.

American women are becoming recognised as workers at the biological laboratories of Europe and the United States of America. In the latter country, we learn from *Science Gossip*, a society of considerable importance exists for maintaining women at the zoological stations of Naples and Woods Hall; also for encouraging ladies to conduct scientific research. The association offers a prize of 1,000 dols., or over £200, for the best thesis presented by a woman on a scientific subject, embodying the results of her independent laboratory research, in any branch of biological, chemical, or physical science.

No woman influences national politics so powerfully as the attractive wife of the German Chancellor, Countess Marie von Buelow, who, in her brilliant toilettes and huge Rembrandt hat is frequently the most important figure in the diplomatic gallery of the Berlin Reichstag. The German Chancellor also often brings his mother-in-law, the venerable widow of the great Minghetti, who, since she played a prominent part in the shaping of Count Beulow's commercial policy with respect to Italy, has obtained the sobriquet of "State Mother-in-Law." These appearances in the political world are a new departure of the home-loving German woman.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)