

were so badly burned with the fire that is how I lost my sight.' She ended by saying, 'Oh, he was such a good man to me.' I asked her where he was and if he was kind to her now. 'Oh,' she said 'he died four months afterwards, that is fifteen years ago, and since then I, the sinner, have been allowed to live. I sit on the bridge, and not a day passes but someone gives me a penny or more, or a bit of food.' This poor woman comes every Monday to the dispensary, and we give her about a penny, for which she seems most grateful. A penny here is divided into eight parts, so we give her the eight pice. She says she spends one a day on salt.

"At Christmas we made up a little bag of tea, sugar, rice, salt, pepper, vegetable oil, and about fourpence in money. Her pleasure was unbounded.

"The bird life here is most beautiful. The little bulbuls come in and eat the crumbs off the table, and even out of my hand. They sit in the room and chatter away. A pair have a way of attaching themselves to a house, and then they will not allow any others to come near their special province. Sometimes other birds will come, and then you can hardly imagine the noise."

Our correspondent asks if we will inquire through the columns of the JOURNAL if anyone will forward her their copy when they have finished with it, so that it may go to an Indian Sister who can read English. We shall be very pleased to forward the name and address of our correspondent to anyone willing to do so.

## New Preparations, Inventions, &c.

### MEINECKE AND CO.'S SPECIALTIES.

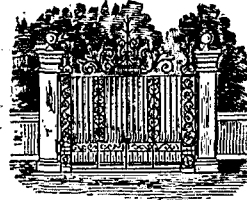
It is with great pleasure that we are able to direct the attention of nurses to the fact that the nursing specialties of Messrs. Meinecke and Co., of New York, which until recently have not been obtainable direct in Great Britain, can now be obtained through their wholesale agents, Messrs. Grimwades, Ltd., Winton Potteries, Stoke-on-Trent. Druggists and institutions can, therefore, now obtain them on application to their wholesale agents.

When we visited the Buffalo Exposition, U.S.A., in 1901, we found the specialties of this firm amongst the exhibits, and in many of the hospitals which we had the pleasure of inspecting we found them in frequent use, and very highly spoken of by our American colleagues. The "Perfection" combined bed and douche pan is one which should be known to all nurses. The special point about it is that it is anatomically correct, and, therefore, does not cause pressure on the spine, as the ordinary bed-pan does. There are few nurses who have not known the discomfort which is occasioned to an emaciated patient from this cause. Another point about it must commend itself to nurses, which is that it has no corners or crevices, and can be easily flushed out. We can most cordially recommend this appliance. The retail price of the standard size, in porcelain, is 8s., and we feel convinced that it has only to be known to be widely adopted in this country.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.

Mrs. Alfred Pollard has been elected president of the Women's Institute, Victoria Street, London, S.W.



The Women's Liberal Federation have passed a resolution expressing their deep sympathy with the Russian people in their

present terrible sufferings, and trusting that they will soon obtain the privileges of a free and independent people.

Lady Frances Balfour presided on Thursday, March 16th, in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, over the Annual Meeting of the Women's Local Government Society. Supporting her was the President, Miss Louisa Twining. Others present included Lady Strachey, Miss Cons, Mrs. Cobden Unwin, Miss C. Cochrane, Miss McKee, Mrs. Maitland, Mrs. Bradley Reid, Miss Janes, Mr. J. F. Torr (Recorder of Hastings), Mrs. Shore Nightingale, Miss Lucy Staples. In referring to the Annual Report, Lady Frances spoke of the steady though slow progress it revealed, the more noticeable to one who like herself had spent years in trying to get the Parliamentary Suffrage for women. Even having women merely co-opted to serve on Education Committees showed that the logic of facts was becoming too strong for the illogical country, and must lead to general enfranchisement. She would not wonder if it came suddenly, and perhaps when power returned to the Liberals, who are deeply pledged to the women who have worked for them so strenuously. The most practical work at present, in view of Dr. Shipman's Bill, down for Second Reading on March 31st, is to importunate members of Parliament, who, with a General Election imminent, cannot ignore appeals.

Miss Louisa Twining, who was greeted with applause, laid special stress on the importance of women inspectors for county workhouse infirmaries to strengthen and support the work of the nurses, who at present are subordinate to untrained masters and matrons, and suggested an appeal to the new President of the Local Government Board. She also emphasised the importance of having more police matrons appointed to take charge of women at police stations. The cost would be very trifling if the wife of a resident policeman were employed.

Dr. Helen Boyle, Assistant Medical Officer at Claybury, 1895-1897, in an address on the Need for Women in the Administration of Lunatic Asylums, declared that their appointment would make for economy in red tape, provisions, internal management, household requirements, architectural arrangements and labour. The supervision of women was also necessary for the choice and management of the best possible female staff. She saw in the future, not monstrous county asylums, but a development of the cottage system, and then women's help would become even more necessary than at present.

Mrs. Fawcett moved, and Miss McKee seconded, the following resolution which was carried unanimously:—

"This meeting thanks Dr. Shipman for introducing

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