

The Fishmongers' Company have given £31 10s. to the North Eastern Hospital for Children.

Baroness Hirsch has sent £100 towards the fund for the enlargement of Queen Charlotte's Lying In Hospital.

Charing Cross Hospital will benefit to the extent of between £400 and £500 by the concert given at Stafford House. This result must be gratifying, not only to all who are interested in the excellent institution, but to the artists who assisted, and to Mr. Percy Borrett (chairman of the Board of Governors), Mr. Arthur Reade (secretary), and Mr. Lund (secretary of the Special Appeal Fund), who had charge of the arrangements.

The North London Hospital for Consumption has received donations of £25 from the Goldsmiths' Company and £20 guineas from the Skinners' Company.

A meeting of the Mansion House Committee of the fund for raising a memorial to the late Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, was held last week, when Sir Whittaker Ellis announced that a generous donor, had offered to erect, and furnish on the south coast an Home of Rest for poor working women, where, allowing each woman a fortnight's rest, about 130 could be received in the course of a year. It was proposed that this should adjoin the Victoria Convalescent Home for Women at Bognor. It is estimated that £11,000 will be needed to endow the home, and of this £9,000 has been raised. The Duchess of York has approved of the arrangement, and nominated as trustees Prince Adolphus of Teck, the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Leven and Melville, Sir Whittaker Ellis, Mr. Halsey, and Max Waechter. It would seem that in a memorial to a woman for the benefit of women the appointment of at least some women as trustees, as for instance Mrs. Creighton, or Lady Henry Somerset, would have been eminently appropriate.

An interesting correspondence has taken place between Lord Salisbury and the council of the Royal College of Surgeons. The council received information that it was meditated introducing a Bill into the Italian Parliament with the object of preventing any medical man practising in Italy who had not an Italian diploma. Inasmuch as most of the foreign doctors are English-speaking men, it was felt that this measure would mean the banishment of British doctors from the country. The Foreign Office was thus appealed to, and now Lord Salisbury has been able to inform the council that he has received an assurance from the English Ambassador at Rome that the intended measure has been abandoned. The council has expressed its appreciation of Lord Salisbury's courtesy.

A Middle-Class Hospital.

We have received the following letter in connection with our remarks on this subject on April 30th:—

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."
Goldsmith Building, Temple, E.C.
May 6th, 1898.

DEAR MADAM,—My attention has been drawn to an article in your issue of April 30th, wherein you make

some serious misstatements respecting Fitzroy House Home Hospital. Having been the Hon. Secretary and Manager of this hospital for the last fourteen years, I must ask you to kindly publish this letter, in order that the true facts may be known.

You say £15,000 was obtained from the charitable public to start Fitzroy House; in point of fact the money available from the contributions of governors and members, etc., was £10,523. You further remark that "Fitzroy House was ostensibly started for the assistance of the middle classes, and in order to provide them at small cost with the comforts of a home combined with the advantages of a hospital." Fitzroy House was established "To provide accommodation for the treatment and care of *all* patients, whether such from disease or accident who are able and willing to pay for the same, according to their respective requirements (see Memorandum of Association, Paragraph 3).

The Hospital was started at 16, Fitzroy Square, and it proving very successful, No. 17 was purchased by mortgage and without any contributions from the public; and subsequently No. 18 was acquired for a Nurses' Home. Unlike all the other houses in London and the provinces, Fitzroy House is not worked for private profit (we can make no profit by our Memorandum of Association); it is managed by an influential Committee and Medical Board who give their services, and its accounts are annually audited by a firm of Chartered accountants.

Your article seems to imply that Fitzroy House has not been a success. This is quite untrue. It has been a very marked success. During the last ten years the annual number of patients has increased from 251 to 291, and the receipts have increased from £4,036 to £5,207, and we have had as many as 92 medical practitioners attending patients in the Home in one year (1890), the average number for the ten years being 71. You say the "two things essential for success in a Nursing Home are that the scale of charges should be remunerative, and that the medical support of the Institution should be great enough to keep at least three-quarters of the available accommodation always occupied."

Assuming this to be an accurate statement, Fitzroy House must by your own standard be deemed successful, as our receipts always equal our expenses for the year; and whilst we can accommodate in all 24 patients our average number of patients during the last five years was 17.4 per annum, and in 1897 it was 18.1.

Yours faithfully,
T. ALMOND HIND.

We have much pleasure in publishing the official reply of the Fitzroy House Committee to our comments. At the same time, we regret that Mr. Almond Hind should have made statements which are so questionable.

1.—He objects to our statement that "some £15,000 were obtained from the charitable public," and asserts that in point of fact the amount was £10,523. We have before us the ninth annual report of the Home Hospitals Association for the year 1886, stating the amounts subscribed to that association—Pages 25-31, both inclusive, show that "Governors" sub-

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