

especially active in this way, and gave proof for example of their good wishes by devoting so much of their invaluable space last week to an excellent report of the meeting of the General Council of the British Nurses' Association.

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I HEAR that the Association meetings at Cambridge, Leicester, Lincoln, and Nottingham, which have been held during the past week, have been most successful, attended by large numbers of well known medical men and Matrons and Nurses from the hospitals in the towns and their neighbourhoods. I have been promised a full account of these meetings, and I hope will receive it in time for our next number. It is reported that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was persuaded to go down to the Cambridge meeting with Miss Wood and Miss Mollett, who form the deputation to the provincial hospitals, and spoke there with the clearness and force for which she is so distinguished.

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TALKING of this lady, I am told that there was an influential gathering of Matrons held last week at her invitation and residence, in Upper Wimpole Street, to discuss several matters which it was believed the Association might with great advantage to Nurses consider and take action upon, and that amongst those present were Miss Jones, of Guy's; Sister Cecilia, of University College; Miss Barton, of the Royal Free; Miss Close, of the Kensington Infirmary; Miss Robertson, of the St. Helena Home; Miss Mansel, of the Metropolitan and National Nursing Association; Miss Sutcliffe, of the Hospital for Women, Soho Square; Miss Clarke, of the Western Fever Hospital; and many others. I hear that three schemes were brought forward, fully discussed, and finally drawn up for recommendation to the executive committee, but till they have been decided upon by that body, the details, it seems, are to be kept private.

S. G.

HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE Mayor of Leamington (Mr. Fell), at the annual meeting of the Committee of the Hospital Saturday Fund in that town, remarked that the collection of last year exceeded that of any previous year, and that the great bulk of the sum came from the workshops. This is exactly how it should be; working-men, by helping themselves in this manner, greatly increase the respect others will have for their independence and courage.

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THE St. Pancras Vestry have at last been able, with the assistance of the Attorney-General, to prevail upon that somewhat original institution, the

Metropolitan Board of Works, to permit the granting of a loan for the purpose of erecting a coroner's court and the requisite sanitary accessories. We should have thought that in a matter of this kind, affecting the health of an important city like London, the *ipse dixit* of the medical advisers to the Local Government Board would have been sufficient. Our institutions of this kind are in a wofully sad condition, and greatly need the broom of activity to sweep them clean.

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WAKEFIELD is to the fore with a new Isolation Hospital, the foundation stone of which has recently been laid. Two blocks—one accommodating ten or more beds, and the other comprising a mortuary, disinfecting accommodation, ambulance house, laundry, &c.—will be erected, at a cost of a little over £2,000.

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THE Committee of the Royal Hospital of Belfast are distressed at the falling off of the income of that institution, although the town itself is increasing in population and wealth. There is something wanting here; is it energy? When may we hope that all charities of whatever description shall only expend what they receive, and shall not be permitted to burden themselves with liabilities which *they hope* they may be able to meet?

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THE Society for Providing Nurses for the Sick Poor in the same town appears to be in a flourishing condition, judging from the amount of work it accomplishes. It is curious to note, however, the great number of cases of a pulmonary and phthisical nature. Ireland, somehow, seems to be quite a centre for this class of disease.

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THE *Medical Record* of New York informs us that "The Parkes Museum of Hygiene has not yet been able to attain a satisfactory financial position, in spite of its added strength due to amalgamation with the Sanitary Institute. It is now proposed to unite with it several other institutions, viz., the National Health Society, the School of Cookery, and the Smoke Abatement Society. It is hoped thereby to form an establishment for the practical teaching of hygiene in all its branches. At a meeting held at the Parkes Museum on Saturday last, at which the Duchess of Albany presided, Sir Douglas Galton said that if those institutions would combine there was reason to believe that ample funds for the endowment of a great national college of hygiene would be forthcoming." This seems a feasible scheme and would form the basis of a great and much needed institution.

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