

dear sir, and demand a Hospital-trained angel with a cast-iron back." The whole Article is so well and pithily written that one cannot help all the greater regret that so much ignorance is displayed as to the position and prospects of the National Pension Fund.

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TALKING of the straits, however, into which some few Nurses come, I should like to call my reader's attention to a very sad case. Mrs. Sarah Duyck, aged 47, lost her husband some six years ago, and has supported herself ever since by Nursing, having, I understand, acted as a Nurse before she married. Some months ago she had a serious accident, and broke her leg so badly that she will probably be a cripple for the rest of her life. Most unfortunately she dislocated one shoulder some years ago, and so cannot even use her crutches for long together. She is now a candidate for an annuity of £20 from the British Home for Incurables, and certainly deserves, in her affliction, the sympathy of Nurses. I hope, therefore, if any of my readers can obtain any Votes for the ensuing election for Mrs. Duyck, from their friends or relations, that they will do so, and fill up the Voting Paper in her favour, forwarding it by post to the Secretary at the office of the Home.

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I AM asked to mention that Miss Stewart has resigned the appointment of Sister Superintendent of the Middlesex Hospital Trained Nurses' Home, a post to which she was appointed when it was first opened. I am very glad to hear that the Institute is proving very successful and thoroughly justifying the foresight of Miss Thorold, and her anxiety for its formation.

HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

(REPORTS OF INSTITUTIONS, ETC.)

FIFTY-FIVE beds will, it is hoped, be at the disposal of the French authorities of the new French Hospital in Shaftesbury Avenue, the foundation stone of which was recently laid by the French Ambassador. The building and its fittings are to cost £20,000, towards this £14,000 have been subscribed. Let us hope that the difference will be made up by the time the Hospital is ready for occupation, and then commence business with a "clean slate."

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WE have just received the third annual report of the Hamilton Association for providing Trained Male Nurses, and we deeply regret to find that a loss of £248 os. 10d. is shown on the working of last year. How is it that a useful institution of

this kind cannot make itself a truly self-supporting one? We don't quite like the form of balance sheet shown, it is not drawn out as well as it might be, for instance, on the "receipts" side, of the working expenses account, we notice, "wages" £1,402 1s. 7d., would not Nurses' earnings be a much better term? On the "payments" side the word wages occurs with an item of £1,245 1s. 10d. This is a correct term. Out of the amount £1,402 1s. 7d. earned by the Nurses, only £147 19s. 9d. appears to be profit, or equal to 10 per cent. No Institution can be properly worked on a gross profit of 10 per cent., and this is where the blot is, we may depend upon it. Raise the percentage on the profit some way and put the Association on the self-earning list, and its usefulness will be even more appreciated than it is. The movement deserves success and ought to have it.

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MANCHESTER has occasion to feel very proud of her numerous Hospitals. The new wing of the Clinical Hospital for Women and Children in that town cannot fail to prove useful as supplying a want greatly needed.

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NEARLY five thousand pounds was the amount added to the funds of the Victoria Hospital for Children by the means of the Silver Fete at South Kensington, an acceptable donation, for which everybody worked hard.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE Queen of Roumania—known as "Carmen Sylva," in the literary world—has had a gold medal struck in her honour by the French Academy. She is known as a woman of most artistic tastes, and the description of her "poets chamber," which she is now having built under her own direction, reads like a fairy story. The little room is constructed of reeds surrounded by a high hedge of roses. In a niche of the flowering hedge, hidden cages are placed, tenanted by singing birds, and in one corner a tiny fountain gives the pleasant sound of falling water, the water itself being perfumed. In the middle of the little room is a mossy bank, and a great block of rock that is also covered with moss, is hewn in the form of a writing desk. Upon this mossy rock, "Carmen Sylva" will henceforth indite her verses. A hammock slung from golden cords will tempt her to repose, when wearied after her literary labours.

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THE Order of the Crown, which has just been created by the Emperor of Japan is to be exclusively for women, and is to be the reward of

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