

THE Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, seeks further public support, increased accommodation being the *raison d'être* of the appeal.

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THE total number of patients treated at the Newcastle Eye Infirmary last year was 4,039, 213 being new cases. The financial statement showed a credit balance of more than £100.

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WE are glad to hear that the troubles at the Dorset County Hospital have subsided, and trust that we have had the last of a disagreement which in a public charity almost becomes a misfortune.

[Several other items of interest are left over on account of the demand upon our space.]

NOTICES OF SOCIETIES, &c.

BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION (President, H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein).—Membership at present is open to any woman who has been engaged in nursing the sick for three years, without entrance fee. Annual subscription—for medical men and matrons, half-a-guinea; for sisters and nurses, half-a-crown. Forms of application for membership, and all information, may be obtained by writing to the Hon. Secretaries, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

NEW SOMERVILLE CLUB FOR WOMEN, 231, Oxford Street, London, W. (close to Oxford Circus).—There is a good Library and Reading Room for members. Social evenings, debates, and lectures are regularly held. Refreshments can be obtained. Subscription, ten shillings per annum (payable quarterly, if desired). After June 24th there will be an entrance fee for new members of ten shillings. For any further particulars, apply to the Secretary, at the Club.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, even amongst the multifarious duties of state—to which she devotes probably more careful attention, and understands better, than any previous British Sovereign—finds time to cultivate many literary and artistic pursuits, the results of which of course are known to and admired by all. But it is not generally known that Her Majesty is also a proficient at the old English work of spinning. Some yarn spun by herself has been made into napkins, and two of these have been graciously lent by the Queen to be exhibited in the section devoted to Women's Industries in the Glasgow International Exhibition.

MRS. H. GOODWYN STEPHENSON, the hon. secretary of the London branch of the Hospital Work Society, whose chief object is to make clothes for the sick children in hospitals, makes a special appeal in the papers for flannel jackets and night-shirts for the children in the Children's Hospital in Cheyne Walk. The Hospital Work Society now numbers over a thousand members, and parcels of clothes are sent monthly to twenty-five institutions in turn. Each member is required to supply four garments yearly, and to provide her own materials, but pays no other subscription.

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MISS BEATRICE POTTER, who has devoted many years to philanthropic work at the East End of London, and especially made herself personally acquainted with the condition of the workers in the tailoring trade, gave evidence the other day before the committee appointed by the House of Lords to inquire into the sweating system. Miss Potter has not satisfied herself with merely visiting the unhappy victims of the slop trade; she actually worked and lived among them for three weeks, and worked for twelve hours a day in four different shops. The slop-coat trade, she explained, is almost entirely in the hands of the Jews, who employ Christians only when they cannot find sufficient Jewesses. Christian workwomen, it seems, are employed in making trousers, vests, and children's clothing. It is at any rate satisfactory to hear that in the coat trade there is no foreign competition, as Englishmen will not wear coats of foreign cut. The *Lancet* appointed commissioners some time ago to investigate the subject, and their report (printed a few weeks ago) disclosed such an awful state of affairs as regards the starvation price paid to workpeople and the degrading bestial life they had to lead in consequence, that public opinion was thoroughly aroused, and the action taken by Parliament is the first result. This is the last, but by no means the greatest, of the many important services rendered to humanity and the State by the *Lancet*, at great expense and trouble to its public-spirited proprietors, the Messrs. Wakley.

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THE recent revelations regarding marriages made through matrimonial agencies are bringing out some funny stories. One tells of an elderly widower who was weary of the iron domestic rule of his three grown-up daughters, and so advertised for a wife in the local papers. He received three replies next day—one from each of his daughters! Talking of matrimonial chances, some curious statistics have recently been published as to the predominating complexion of brides now-a-days, from which it would almost seem that fair-haired women are at a slight discount at present in the marriage market, as it appears that three brunettes are married to two blondes. I could easily suggest another theory

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