

whole time to the visiting, consoling and comforting of afflicted Christians, and to the reading to them of the Bible (see Matt. xxv. 36, 'I was sick and ye visited me')."

This is the seed dropped into the soil of Paisley some eleven years since by Mr. Brough, which, under the thoughtful care of his trustees, has grown into the goodly tree, the Brough Nurses' Institution, which is located in the old Cameronian Manse at Oakshawhead, next door to the house where the founder of the Trust spent his last years. In that house, which has been leased by the trustees for five years, there are at present five Nurses and a superintendent, who are aided in their work by a committee of ladies, at whose head is Mrs. James Arthur of Barshaw, whose long-continued philanthropic labours have made her name "a household word" in Paisley. They begin nursing work among the sick poor of the five districts into which the town is divided at 9 a.m., when they may be seen issuing from the home, each dressed in a long blue serge cloak, relieved at the neck with a broad white linen collar, and carrying a little basket in which are "nice things" for their patients. The names of those they care for are sent in to the superintendent, Miss Watson, and the interest taken in their work by the medical men of the town may be seen from the following statistics:—Cases reported last year by various parties, 24; clergymen, 32; missionaries, 52; patients and their friends, 120; doctors, 330. The area of suffering they cover may be learned from the following figures:—cases nursed, 558; recovered, 338; transferred to hospital, 25; died, 107; removed from other causes, 16; still on books, 72; visits paid, 16,816. And the variety of diseases they deal with may be seen by those which reached double figures, namely, diseases connected with child-birth, 76; phthisis, 55; enteric fever, 56; debility, 30; paralysis, 28; ulcerated legs, 20; rheumatism, 18; abscesses, 16; bruises and sprains, 14; bronchitis, 14; pneumonia, 10; necrosis, 10; and wounds, 10.

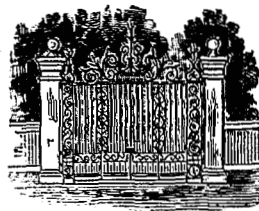
They are all "Queen's Nurses," hailing from the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses in Edinburgh, with which the Paisley institution is affiliated. They are young ladies who have received in early life an excellent general education, being mostly "daughters of the manse," so that their manners are refined and gentle, whilst their conversation is profitable to the patients. In their visits they confine their attention to nursing proper, though they are not precluded from praying with or reading to their patients. This part of the work, which was evidently uppermost in Mr. Brough's mind when he drew up his will, is attended to by nineteen missionaries and Bible-women, who each get £15 a year from the trustees for their ministering to the sick poor. So thoroughly has the town been divided and the work apportioned by the trustees, that there is not a single sick person, who is poor, that need be without the best nursing and satisfactory religious consolation. This is certainly a very desirable state of matters, and to show how easily it could be reached in other places, we append the sums spent by the trustees on the various departments of the scheme under their charge:—for Nurses, in rent, furnishings, provisions, salaries, &c., £585 7s. 10d.; for aliment to patients, £139; for clothing to patients, £123 9s. 4d.; for missionaries and Bible-women, £285; in all £1,132 17s. 2d.

Paisley.

J. B. S.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



YE Fayre of Sainte Valentyne held last week in Windsor in aid of the charities of Holy Trinity parish, was opened by Princess Christian, accompanied by Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, accompanied by Colonel Gordon and Miss

Loch. The ceremony was an interesting one. The Rev. A. Robins, rector of the parish, personated the Vicar of Wakefield, and his wife appeared as Mrs. Primrose. The Hall was transformed into an old English street and market place, a village cross and well, and "Ye Merrie Wives of Windsor Inn."

It is hoped that before long a suitable monument will mark the grave of Mrs. Siddons, who, during the latter part of the last century, and the early years of this, was undoubtedly the leading actress on the English stage. She was buried in 1831, in the churchyard at Paddington, which has now been converted into public gardens. Mr. Irving has agreed to contribute towards the fund.

Among the interesting and valuable Papers (two of which are noticed elsewhere in these columns) read at the Central Poor Law Conference, held last week in the Guildhall, was one on "The Control of Pauper Children," by Miss Grafton, Head of the Department for girls from Workhouses (Girls' Friendly Society). The gist of the matter, she said, lies in a nutshell. Every energy must be applied to bring up the children free from the tendencies of their parents; for unless independence and self-respect is inculcated they will inevitably slip back to their parents' condition. But how can this control and education of the children be maintained, as worthless parents are too ready to reclaim their offspring so soon as it is expected they can earn a little money. Or, if the parents happen to be in the workhouse, they take their discharge from time to time, and the child is submitted to all the deteriorating influences of a vagabond life.

The Guardians have, however, she said, a resource in their hands, for the Poor Law Act of 1889 vests in them, the care of deserted children, boys to the age of 16 and girls till 18, with the power and rights of parents. The Act also permits guardians to delegate their authority over the child to a suitable relative or friend. The Girls' Friendly Society has stepped in here and done much good work. Then there is "The Custody of Children Act," 1891, which provides that when the parent applies for a writ for the production of the child, the Court shall refuse, if of the opinion that compliance would be harmful to the child. But as the Guardians in defending their right would be involved in considerable risk of expense, this course is impracticable. Miss Grafton then gave a number of examples illustrating the need of definite power of control being given to Guardians for the protection of children, dividing them into Class A, orphans, and Class B, those with disreputable parents.

In dealing with the arguments usually brought

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