

The Grand Master will hold a convention (or *levée*) of the Order immediately before the dinner.

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Mr. Balfour has accepted an invitation to the annual dinner of the Newspaper Society, to be held at the Holborn Restaurant on May 8th.

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The Duke of Westminster will head a deputation of the Church Society for the Promotion of Kindness to Animals and of the Church Sanitary Association to the President of the Local Government Board on May 27th.

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The festival dinner of the East London Hospital for Children will take place on May 30th, instead of the 29th as previously announced.

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We have just received the Sixty-second Annual Report of the Stockport Infirmary, which contains several features of considerable interest. The Committee's Report is decidedly mournful in tone from a financial point, but considering that the hospital has more than £41,000 invested, to meet an annual expenditure of £4,000 receives £1,540 from those investments, and in these hard times was apparently able to invest a further sum of £400 last year, it will perhaps cheer the Committee to know that there are a large number of managers of similar institutions in London and the Provinces who would gladly exchange financial positions with the Committee of the Stockport Infirmary. The accounts are given in a very unusual but very useful form, the income and expenditure being shown under each head in parallel columns for the last four years—thus furnishing at a glance, a valuable means of comparison. This system might with much advantage be adopted by the managers of other hospitals, both for its simplicity and usefulness.

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We have received the Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Hampshire Nurses' Institute at Southampton, and are glad to learn that it continues to prosper. The healthiness of 1894, however, is powerfully proved by the fact that the Nurses earned nearly £100 less last year than in 1893, and that at one time, only 3 of the Staff of 18 were engaged. On the other hand the uncertainty of work is shown by the fact that during the year 26 cases could not be undertaken by those on the regular Staff. A very significant statement is made in the Report: "The Committee have decided not to train any more Probationers for the present, but to engage fully trained Nurses, as opportunity offers." We congratulate the Committee on the wisdom of this decision, which is for the

benefit of everyone concerned, and especially for the advantage of the sick public.

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We have received a very encouraging and satisfactory Report of the work and progress of the Male Nurses' Temperance Co-operation, during the past year—the first of its existence. The Secretary states that:

"The average earnings of each man after paying all expenses has been at the rate of £97 2s. 5d. per annum.

The medical profession and the public evidently appreciate our efforts to improve the class and condition of Male Nurses, and many who do not approve of the total abstinence, say that in our case it is a real blessing, as in the past it has happened that a drunken male attendant in a house has been a greater terror to its inmates than his insane patient.

During the second year of our existence we hope to do much in the direction of improving the class and raising the standard of Male Nurses and Male Attendants, and every assistance and encouragement will be given to really first-class men."

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The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the North-west London Hospital was held at the Hospital last week, Mr. Frederic Durham presiding. Mr. Alfred Craske, the Secretary, read the annual report, which stated that the Marquis Camden had consented to be elected President of the Institution, and Mr. D. P. Plunket, Q.C., M.P., had given valuable services as Chairman of the Committee. The total income was £4,407, of which only £757 was raised by annual subscriptions. The year's income had been appreciably augmented by gifts of £1,000 from Mr. John Maple, and £500 from Baron de Hirsch. The Committee pointed out that the annual expenditure was £4,000, while the subscriptions were less than £800; thus a deficiency of £3,200 must be provided for. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the Hospital was doing an immense amount of good work in a poor and thickly populated district of North-west London. So much had their work been appreciated that the Hospital now needed enlargement, though that could not be undertaken at present. He made an urgent appeal for increased annual subscriptions. Mr. J. B. Potter seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The election of the Marquis Camden as President was confirmed.

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The amateur theatricals which were organized by Mrs. James, of West Dean Park, in aid of the Chichester Infirmary, resulted in a net profit of £88, which has been forwarded by Mr. James to the Treasurer of that excellent institution.

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