

The membership is going up steadily and the names of Lady Henry Somerset, Lady Katherine Somerset, Dr. Clifford, and Mr. Graham Wallas, are connected with the work. But the founder, inspirer, and prime mover is Sister Grace; to her kindly sympathy and dogged perseverance the Guild of the Brave Poor Things owes its existence.

The total receipt of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, now amounts to £188,751, exclusive of the sale of Hospital Stamps.

The Committee of University College Hospital have, owing to their serious financial condition, decided to close fifty beds. They are also about to sell the last investment available for general purposes, in order to pay off the loan from the bankers of £9000, and to pay the most pressing of the tradesmen's bills. It is to be regretted that this hospital does not meet with a larger amount of public support, considering the excellent work which is performed there. We cannot but think that the reputation it possesses as being a school of scientific research prevents its being as popular with the benevolent portion of the public as would otherwise be the case.

A Sub-Committee appointed to consider the proposals for the reconstruction of portions of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, have recommended plans for adoption.

A new Nurses' Home has been opened in connection with the Sick Childrens' Hospital, Glasgow. The Hospital which was opened in 1892, at first contained fifty-eight cots, while now eighty cases are treated; so that more accommodation for nurses is urgently required. At the dispensary the work has also largely increased, and the services of two sisters and one nurse are required. These are accommodated in the new home, as are also six nurses from the hospital.

Sir William Ogilvy Dalgeish, Bart., President of the Dundee Royal Infirmary, the donor of the new Nurses' Home in connection with this Institution, formally handed over the building to the Directors on Monday last. The Home, which will accommodate thirty-nine nurses, is most comfortably fitted up, and the rooms are large and airy. It stands in the Infirmary grounds, but has a separate entrance, and is connected with the main Infirmary by a handsome corridor.

A most successful bazaar was recently held in Belfast on behalf of the Mater Infirmorum Hospital. For some time past the urgent need of an increased number of beds in this Institution has been felt, and at length the important step of building a new hospital was decided upon. This is now approaching completion, and the bazaar held in Ulster Hall was organized with a view of adding to the funds. The decorative scheme was effectively carried out, the various stalls being designed to represent the different countries of the world. At the back of the refreshment stall was displayed an excellent picture of the World's Fair at Chicago. It is stated that in addition to the proceeds realized by the sales a considerable amount has been promised in subscriptions. No. 1 stall alone has, it is stated, received £1667 in this way. We hope that the result of this bazaar upon which a great amount of trouble and thought has been expended, will be a substantial addition to the balance in the hands of the bankers of the Mater Infirmorum Hospital.

A Public Danger!

BURDETT'S OFFICIAL NURSING DIRECTORY.

IT will be remembered that in 1895 Sir Henry (then Mr. H. C.) Burdett proclaimed his intention of issuing an Official Directory of Nurses, and thus once more attempting to interfere with the profession of Nursing. With a right sense of professional responsibility, the Matrons Council discussed this important point of a layman constituting himself an official authority on the qualifications of trained nurses, and at a Meeting, in March, 1895, passed the following Resolutions:—"1st. That, in the opinion of the Matrons' Council, the issue of 'Burdett's Official Nursing Directory' is calculated to mislead the public as to the professional status of Trained Nurses, and to depreciate the value of the three years' training—the term approved by the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Management of Hospitals, and by the Privy Council of this Empire. 2nd. That, in the opinion of the Matrons' Council, it is desirable that action to minimize the effect of the issue of 'Burdett's Official Nursing Directory' be taken by the Royal British Nurses' Association as the incorporated body of Nurses." These Resolutions were brought before the Royal British Nurses' Association, and the General Council, in May, 1895, wisely accepted the recommendation "to publish a Directory of Chartered Nurses."

At the General Council Meeting in July, 1895, it was reported: "The question of the publication of a Directory of Chartered Nurses, sanctioned at the last Meeting of the Council, is now receiving attention, and it is hoped a scheme may be prepared whereby the Annual Register will be made to serve the purpose of a Directory as well as of a Register." From that day to this, no official information has been given to the members on this very important professional question by the officials of the Royal British Nurses' Association. In January, 1896, the Matrons' Council therefore decided to appoint a Committee to edit the *Nursing Directory*, a publication which has been for some years in circulation, and to place therein the names of those nurses who had been registered by the Royal British Nurses' Association, who were trained for three years in hospitals and infirmaries, and trained nurses holding a three years' certificate from a recognized training school, recommended and signed for by the Matron of the institution in which they were trained, thereby safeguarding the interests both of well-qualified nurses and the public.

BURDETT'S OFFICIAL NURSING DIRECTORY, 1898.

After three years' preparation, at last this book has appeared, "compiled and edited with the assistance of a small committee of medical men and matrons" by Sir Henry C. Burdett. As the names of the small committee who have compiled this publication are very discreetly withheld, we regret that we are unable to express to them by name the strong disapprobation which many trained and certificated nurses will experience upon finding their names printed in this book without their consent, and which at once disproves the assertion that it has any official authority whatever. It is also to be regretted that "medical men and matrons" can be found to support Sir Henry Burdett in his most unwise attempt to assume a

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