

A return just issued, shows that during the mayoralty of Alderman Sir George Faudel-Phillips, Bart., no less a sum than £657,000 was raised by Mansion House funds for the relief of the poor, the afflicted, and the famine and fever stricken. The following sums were collected, viz.: The Indian Famine Fund, £550,000; the Devastation in Essex, £28,000; the Lady Mayoress's Branch of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, £5,000; the Princess of Wales's Jubilee Fund, £32,000; the Hospital Sunday Fund, £40,000; and the Montserrat Floods Fund, £2,000.

The London Hospital has received from the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers £52 10s. in answer to the appeal now being made in aid of the funds.

Mr. C. W. Lea has left numerous large sums as legacies to charities in Worcester, including £10,000 to the infirmary.

The infectious diseases block of the New General Hospital, Birmingham, has been opened so that now every department is at work. There is but one vacant ward in the new building, one which is kept in reserve for great emergencies, and for use during the annual cleaning operations. It is noticeable that, since the hospital has been moved to its present quarters, the out-patients have increased by fifty per cent. Amongst the in-patients also the number of admissions, as compared with the corresponding period last year, has increased by 500, and, though all the wards are fully occupied, there are still over 100 patients waiting for admission. It is estimated that the hospital will require an additional income of £5,000 per annum in order to meet the increased expenses, so it is to be hoped that the ever-liberal citizens of Birmingham will find the necessary ways and means.

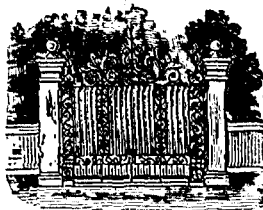
Professor Michael Foster, M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., Professor of Physiology in the University of Cambridge, has been appointed Gifford Lecturer at Glasgow. Professor Foster is one of the greatest living authorities on physiology.

Sir Squire Bancroft gave a reading at Montreal last week from Dickens's "Christmas Carol" before a large and brilliant audience. The entertainment was a great success. The entire proceeds of the evening were divided between two charities, the Maternity Hospital and the Victorian Order of Nurses, an organization for district nursing which it is hoped will cover the whole of the Dominion, and was established by Lady Aberdeen to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

At a recent sitting of the Paris Academy of Sciences two communications were made as to the effects of the Röntgen rays. In the first case photographs, showing the cure of elephantiasis on the hand after three exposures of a few minutes' duration each, were submitted by doctors at Havre, and, in the second case, M. Bounier submitted a note showing that the rays are favourable to the germination of seeds. Several experiments had been made, care being taken to correct errors which might arise from electricity or temperature.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



Our chances of obtaining the suffrage this Session appear somewhat remote; as our friends have failed to gain a place sufficiently high to give much hope of a Bill coming on this Session. It has been decided that, if possible, the subject shall be brought forward by means of a resolution. We have just got to peg away; we *must* win ultimately.

The Home Secretary, replying to Mr. Kemp, in the House of Commons, stated that in cases where women inspectors desired to prosecute for infringement of the Factory Acts, the sanction of the lady principal inspector had to be endorsed by the chief male inspector of the district. This is the new rule to which the women inspectors naturally object.

A Meeting will be held shortly at the Office of the National Union of Women Workers, for the purpose of consultation with nursing experts as to the desirability of forming a Nursing Sub-Committee of the Union.

The following Sub-Committees are already organized and doing useful work:—Literature Sub-Committee, Convener, Mrs. Creighton; Joint Lecture Committee, Convener, Mrs. Bernard Bosanquet; Legislation Sub-Committee, Convener, Lady Laura Ridding; Sub-Committee for consideration of openings for the employment of educated women, Convener, Miss Fanny Calder; Industrial Sub-Committee, Convener, Mrs. MacDonald; Technical Education Sub-Committee, Convener, Miss Fanny Calder; Girls' Club, Sub-Committee, Convener, Miss Janes; Sub-Committee for work among men and boys, Convener, Miss Blanche Piggott; Rescue and Preventive Sub-Committee, Convener, Mrs. Rawlinson.

We learn from the Occasional Paper just issued by the National Union of Women Workers, that the Committee of arrangements for the International Congress of Women, which is to take place in London, in the summer of 1899, will meet and begin work in June or July of this year. The Executive of the National Union of Women Workers has nominated five of its members, to represent it upon the International Committee:—Lady Battersea, Mrs. Percy Bunting, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Rawlinson and Lady Laura Ridding. Mrs. Alfred Booth, the President, has an *ex-officio* seat upon the Committee.

The Women's Local Government Society have issued an address to women electors, in which it reminds them that they have votes for the County Council. "Do you wish," it questions, "to assist in obtaining the removal of an unjust legal hindrance against women serving on the County Councils? This hindrance, six judges have declared, disqualifies women from sitting on County Councils. If you feel this to be unjust, then, at the coming election, only vote for those candidates for the London County Council who will pledge themselves to support a

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