

The Secretary of the British Home for Incurables, Streatham, has received contributions from the following City companies:—Clothworkers, 20 guineas; Leathersellers, 20 guineas; Dyers, 3 guineas.

The Leathersellers' Company have made a further grant of £10 10s. to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis and other Diseases of the Nervous System, Regent's Park, of which institution the Earl of Hardwicke has been recently elected president.

The treatment of the wounded at the battle of Omdurman was the subject of several questions by Mr. Scott, of the *Manchester Guardian*, in the House of Commons. Mr. Scott inquired whether, in view of the misapprehensions which appeared to have arisen with regard to the orders given by the Sirdar in relation to the treatment of wounded dervishes, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs would state what were the terms of the instructions issued. He also inquired whether Mr. Brodrick was aware that statements had been made by more than one eye witness that the camp followers of the Sirdar's army on the day of the battle came out and killed and plundered the wounded Dervishes, wounding also some of our own troops by their reckless firing. Mr. Scott further desired information as to the statements recently made by General Gatacre in a published article implying that the Jaalin friendlies had so far passed beyond the control of their officers as to murder wounded Baggaras, and whether the right hon. gentleman's attention had been called to the statement of Lieut. Winston Churchill that a week after the battle there were still a few wounded left on the battlefield.

Mr. Brodrick replied that there was no reason to suppose that any instructions were issued by the Sirdar at the Battle of Omdurman differing from those which governed the practice of the British and Egyptian forces in previous engagements. With regard to the alleged conduct of the camp followers, Lord Cromer had been requested to obtain and forward a report, but it had not yet been received. Every care would, no doubt, be taken by the Sirdar and the officers of the Egyptian Army to keep all native allies under proper control. Lastly, that Her Majesty's Government are confident that all possible assistance was given to the wounded Dervishes out of the resources at the Sirdar's command.

A question by Mr. MacNeill as to whether the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs would guarantee that Lord Cromer's report should be laid on the table of the House before the Bill giving Lord Kitchener £30,000 was introduced, remained unanswered.

The finances of the Sussex County Hospital can scarcely be said to be in a satisfactory condition, as, according to the Annual Report, the ordinary receipts are £8,112 4s. 5d., and the ordinary expenditure £11,671 14s. 8d. During the past year the immediate anxiety of the Committee has been relieved by the receipt of £10,000 from the executors of the late Mr. John Silvani, but it would be very unsatisfactory to be obliged to spend this gift in meeting current expenses, and it would not redound to the credit of the rich town of Brighton if this course became necessary.

## Our Foreign Letter.

AN INTERESTING FUNCTION.



DEAR MADAM,  
—You always show such a kind interest in nursing matters in this country that I think you will be interested to hear of the commencement

ment exercises of the class of 1898 of the New York Training School for Nurses attached to Belle Vue Hospital.

The exercises were held at the Nurses' Home, 426, East Twenty-Sixth Street, in one of the large rooms adjoining the hall. There was so large an attendance, however, that before the proceedings had begun, the guests had overflowed into the hall itself. Professor Henry Fairfield Osborn presided, and was supported by the Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix, Dr. Samuel Alexander, and Mr. William Church Osborn. The thirty-one members of the graduating class, in their pretty uniform, sat on Professor Osborn's right hand.

The Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix opened the exercises with prayer, and then Professor Osborn read the annual report of the secretary, Mrs. William Osborn, as follows.—

### THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Our graduates now number 580. At the present time sixty-seven are holding hospital positions, either as superintendents, matrons, or head nurses. Twelve are district nurses among the poor; eleven in this country and one in Holland. As missionary nurses, two are in China, two in Turkey, and one is in India. One hundred and eight have married, forty have died, nine have studied medicine.

With the establishment of schools for nurses connected with every principal hospital in the city, there arose a fear in the minds of some that the ranks of the profession would be overcrowded, but not long after the breaking out of the war between the United States and Spain the surgeons in the Army recognized the value of female trained nurses to care for their sick and wounded men, and now a large number are employed in connection with the Army. One of our graduates has charge of 135 nurses in Cuba, and another is in charge of the nursing at the General Hospital, San Juan, Porto Rico.

Early in June Commissioner Keller offered the Sturges Surgical Ward to the Government for soldiers and officers who could not be received at the Army hospitals for want of sufficient accommodation. The first thirty men came from the transport *Seneca* about the middle of July, and from that time until the middle of October the ward was constantly filled.

There have been 652 calls for private nurses during the year, and thirty-nine calls to fill hospital positions, but as many of the hospitals could only offer very small salaries we have only filled nine.

The formal applications to enter the school during the year 1898 were 1,850; of these forty-seven were accepted as pupil nurses, but during the two years'

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)