

The chairman declared himself to be highly pleased with this proposal, which he, however, should like to modify in this way, that not only nurses, members of the "Bond," should profit by those proposed lectures, but *all* nurses who felt inclined to attend them. The assembly authorised the Board of Management to take the necessary measures required for realising the project, and gave also its full consent to the credit required.

After the election of two non-certificated nurses as members, according to Art. 5 of the Rules (the admission as members of persons who have made themselves useful in the field of nursing) and the appointment of Zwolle as the place where the next general meeting of the Dutch Nursing Association is to be held, Dr. Guldenarm read his paper about "Sick Nursing," in which he gave a short account of the history and development of nursing, and of the present state of things. He suggested a reorganisation of our nursing system in this sense, that the private nurses should be put under the control of a well-ruled Home for Sisters, or a Society for District Nursing. He also thought it most desirable that there should be co-operation between the hospitals, homes for sisters, and institutions for district nursing in this way, that the hospital nurses should be temporarily at work in private nursing under the control of some home for sisters or some society for district nursing, while, on the other hand, the private nurse and district nurse should come back for a time to the hospitals to learn for themselves the progress made in the field of nursing, and to exercise by their personal experience and noble devotion an educating influence upon the junior members of the nursing staff.

At the end of his lecture Dr. Guldenarm laid down his opinion in the following conclusions:—

The present system of nursing does not satisfy in the long run. It is to be feared that the hospitals will not always have at their disposal a sufficient number of well-bred and trained nurses.

The hospital nurses come too little into contact with social life. District nursing should be promoted with a view of training humane nurses.

The private nurse is put under no form of control; measures should be taken in order to make her perform her duty under the superintendence of competent persons.

Co-operation between hospital and district nursing is most desirable.

A general regulation for the pensioning of nurses is urgent.

More stress should be laid on the ethics of nursing.

The assembly gave proof of its approbation and its sympathy by loud applause. After this the speaker suggested that the Dutch Nursing Association in due time—in six months, for instance—should offer to the parties concerned a scheme for the reorganization of our nursing system on the lines which he had designed. Before expressing an opinion on this matter, however, the "Bond" should ascertain for itself the views of fully competent persons, of the Councils of Societies for District Nursing, Homes for Sisters, etc.

A decision in this sense was taken by the assembly.

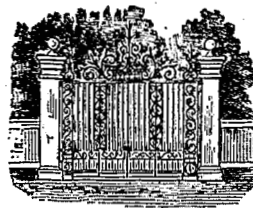
The chairman offered a vote of thanks to Dr. Guldenarm for his splendid discourse, and to the resigning members of the Board of Management for all they had done in order to further the cause of sick nursing, in keeping faith with the aims of the "Bond." After this he brought the meeting to an end.

The Hague, July, 1899.

HOLLANDIA.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



A MEETING of Members of the House of Commons upon the subject of the eligibility of women to sit upon the new municipal councils in the metropolis was held last week at the House of Commons. Mr. Courtney presided, and a number of other Members

were present. The Chairman having explained that the elections under the London Government Bill would not take place until November 1900, it was agreed that Mr. Courtney should give notice to bring in a short Bill next Session to legalise the principle already approved by the House of Commons, that sex should be no disqualification in the election of women as aldermen or councillors.

We hope that so soon as the holidays are over the Women's Societies will combine to make a public and united protest against the intolerable action of the House of Lords, and the futility of the House of Commons, in depriving women of their rightful privilege of acting on the London Vestries. Mass meetings of protest should certainly be held in the constituencies of those members of Parliament who voted in favour of omitting women from participation in the local government of London. The campaign should open appropriately in Marylebone, whose unfortunate women citizens are represented (save the mark) by Mr. Boulnois, M.P.!

The great Congress is already beginning to bear fruit in more than one direction. Berlin ladies are determined to have their pioneer club in emulation of their London sisters, and to fill a long-felt want in their social life. A suite of rooms has been rented in a lively part of the city, and are being fitted up as reading, music, dining, and drawing rooms. A committee of ladies is actively engaged in drawing up statutes and bye-laws. The membership is to be limited to professional women and "ladies in society."

Some months ago it was stated that a lady had offered to find capital to the extent of £30,000 if the Rowton House Company would try the experiment of setting up one of their establishments for women. Until recently it has been contended by the Rowton directors that the problem of dealing with women in such places presented peculiar difficulties, and they have declined to touch it. Now Sir Richard Farrant, the moving spirit in this invaluable work, announces the intention of the Company to build a Rowton House for Women. It will require a capital of £50,000, but, thanks to the generous lady's offer, Sir Richard Farrant has determined to make the attempt, and he believes the remaining £20,000 will easily be obtained.

It is presumable that this House would not provide accommodation for the class of women engaged in professional and semi-professional vocations, so very greatly in need of comfortable quarters in London, where cheap and good lodgings are unknown.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)