

HOSPITAL INTELLIGENCE.

REPORTS OF INSTITUTIONS, &c.

THE Council of the After-Care Association for Poor and Friendless Female Convalescents on leaving Asylums for the Insane—Oh, dear, I do feel relieved when I have got through writing out the title of this very excellent Society—have just issued their report for 1888-1889, which is satisfactory reading. During the year no less than fifty cases were considered, twenty-four of which were boarded out in the country, others obtained relief by grants of money and clothing, and in nearly every case assisted, suitable employment was afterwards found. The number of members has increased largely during the last twelve months. The income was £147 14s. 1d., the expenditure being £29 1s. 0d. *more*. I am glad to see that the balance-sheet is certified by properly qualified chartered accountants, an example which might with very great advantage be followed by other societies.

THE first meeting of the General Committee of the Rugby and District Nursing Association was held on the 2nd, when Dr. Percival, who presided, was appointed chairman of the Association. The committee reported that they had engaged a Nurse, and they submitted a statement showing that the estimated expenses for the year would be about £97, while subscriptions promised amounted to £83 6s. The report was adopted, and rules were approved, in which it was stated that the objects of the Association were to give skilled nursing at home in cases unable to obtain it elsewhere. Dr. Percival hoped the committee would be able to obtain at least £100 a year, otherwise the Association could not be carried on satisfactorily. Surely there ought not to be any difficulty in Dr. Percival's modest request being complied with in a wealthy district like Rugby.

I AM desired to state that the Institute of Medical Electricity, Limited, 24A, Regent Street, Waterloo Place, S.W., has inaugurated a course of ten weekly lecture demonstrations in elementary electro-physiology and therapeutics.

THE Eighteenth Report of the Boston Hospital, Lincolnshire, has reached me. One hundred and seventy-five patients were treated in the Hospital during the past year. Twenty-six also were treated outside the Hospital, and one hundred and twenty-three visits paid to patients at their own homes. After more than a year's experience since the new wing was added to the Hospital, the Committee are able to report that they feel satisfied that the expenditure has been fully

justified by the increased number of patients admitted, and by the greater convenience afforded in working the Hospital. Five more beds have been fully occupied than in any previous year. The accounts show a balance £1 6s. 11d. as due to the Treasurer on the general account. The subscriptions and donations and also the receipts from collecting boxes, I regret to say, show a falling off from previous years. The amount received from patients is larger than in any previous year. This is due in great measure to an increase in the payment which the Committee have deemed it right to make in cases where they considered the patient was able to afford a larger sum than the minimum payment of five shillings per week, which is a step in quite the right direction. The *total* cost for food, coals, and gas is greater than in previous years, owing to the larger number of patients; the cost per bed, however, has been less than in any previous year; and the expenditure for food for the patients and staff, as compared with the rate at similar Institutions, testifies to the good and economical management of Miss Heanley, the Matron.

THE JUNIOR HOUSE SURGEON.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE GOVERNESS.

In those good old days which our bachelor uncles and maiden aunts are always regretting, when the wheels of time moved on the slow-turning axle of the stately stage coach, instead of flying round at express train speed of sixty miles an hour, a lady, if driven by the force of circumstances to earn her own living, had no resource open to her but to seek for a situation as governess, and undertake, whether suited for the difficult task or not, "to teach the young idea how to shoot." But—and let us be thankful therefore—*nous avons changé tout cela*, and no one is now obliged to be a governess or starve. Work in every form is gaining more and more the ascendancy, and soon it will be the drones, and not the busy bees, who will be despised, and the foolish expression (foolish indeed when applied to honest labour of any kind) "demean yourself" will have become obsolete; but there are many who cling still to this old profession of teaching, and the supply is beyond the demand, so, at least, testify the advertisement columns of the press—unlying evidence. The reason of this is partly the fact that schools, especially day schools, have in great measure taken the place of the older system of home education; partly because, whilst the necessity is less, the requirements are greater. Yet the

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