

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE Queen has been requested by the trustees of the Victoria National Gallery to sit for a portrait to be painted for this Institution. Her Majesty has declined the honour, but has expressed her willingness to allow a *replica* of her Jubilee portrait to be made for the colony that bears her name. The trustees have telegraphed their consent to this arrangement, provided an artist of standing can be found to undertake the work.

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At the meeting lately held at the Mansion House on the subject of the necessity for the training of teachers for the higher grade schools, with especial reference to the Maria Grey Training College for Teachers, Sir Mount Stuart Grant-Duff read an extract from a letter from the Empress Frederick to the Princess Christian, viz. :—"I am in sympathy with the excellent work and deeply interested in and anxious for its success. To establish a thoroughly good Kindergarten in connection with the College for the special training of teachers for the Kindergarten and the succeeding schools, where also William Ellis's lessons on conduct may be taught, thus forming a 'Froebel and William Ellis Institution,' which leads up to the existing Maria Grey Training College for Teachers of higher-grade schools, would be to complete a work which would be an organic whole and embrace all that one would wish to see taught logically developed step by step."

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PRINCESS CHRISTIAN has been very busy, as usual, doing good, one day taking part in a concert at Brompton Hospital, organised for the amusement of the patients, and manifesting her interest by contributing pianoforte solos, and taking part in a duet with Miss Mary Liddell. The Ladies' Guitar Band, which numbered among its members Lady Dorothea Murray and Ladies Emily and Sophie Cadogan, discoursed sweet music with effect; Lady Feodorowna Sturt sang two songs, and the Hon. Winifred Sturt played two violin solos; while the Hon. A. Yorke gave recitations. Among the company present were Lady Cadogan, Lady Dudley, Lady Forbes of Newe, and the Hon. Mrs. North Dalrymple. The next day she attended a crowded meeting at the Mansion House, in aid of the scheme for Registration of Nurses, which is evidently popular with the public, although opposed by the inevitable few, who imagine that the protection of thoroughly Trained Nurses from unfair competition with unskilled labour, and a guarantee to the public of a Nurse's efficiency, such as a State Register would inaugurate, would

injure their entire liberty of action in dealing with Trained Nurses. At present each Training School is a law unto itself, and supplies the public with Nurses at a fixed rate of payment, but without necessarily giving any guarantee that the Nurse supplied is the genuine article. She may have received one, two, or three years' training, but at present the employer is entirely at the mercy of each individual who represents the institution from whence the Nurse comes. It is stated that more than one Private Nursing Institution attached to the Training Schools sends out as thoroughly Trained Nurses women who have received but one year's instruction, demanding the same payment for her which is awarded to thoroughly efficient and duly certificated Nurses supplied by the better organised and more conscientious institutions. Princess Christian is doing a noble work in using her great influence in attempting to abolish these abuses.

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LADY DUFFERIN has sent the beautiful portrait painted of her by Mr. Archer during his visit to India, to Ireland. She is wearing the dress of silver brocade and necklace of diamond shamrocks designed by Lord Dufferin, which she wore on the occasion of her silver wedding. Lady Dufferin intends to publish through Mr. Murray a selection from the journal she kept in India when Lord Dufferin was Governor-General, under the title of "Our Viceregal Life in India."

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MRS. JEUNE is hard at work, as in previous summers, in raising a "Children's Holiday Fund," as well as one for the purpose of sending some factory girls belonging to the Girls' Club, St. Clement's, City-road, into the country for a week or ten days' change of air. Two years ago Mrs. Jeune collected a sufficient sum to enable her to send 1,100 London children into the country; last year she sent 760 for three weeks (and all at a cost, including clothing for a great many of them and a special attention to the delicate ones, of £757); and already, since May 1, 405 have gone under her auspices.

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THE Medical Board of Health has issued the following important warning:—"In consequence of the continued spread of scarlet fever, measles, and diphtheria in the Metropolis, the Board requests that householders will look after the sanitary arrangements of their dwellings, and see that all accumulations of animal and vegetable matter be removed. Fever cases should be at once reported to the District Officer of Health, and persons suffering from diarrhoea should have immediate medical advice. Defective drains or sinks should

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