

Before I have finished with "Union" matters I shall possess a fair collection of interesting "items." Where were the Medical officers during the above discussion?

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THE Norfolk and Norwich Hospital has just issued its annual statement for 1889, which will be presented at the annual general board meeting, April 12, and from which I learn among other things that the accounts submitted show that the amount received, exclusive of legacies, was £7,087 19s. 5d., while the expenditure was £7,799 6s. 6d. (including £259 15s. 3d. for painting the outside of the Hospital), or an excess of £711 7s. 1d., which has necessitated not only the use of the total sum derived during the year from legacies and the small balance brought from the previous year of £106 18s. 6d., but has left the sum of £297 10s. 11d. due to the Treasurer; but against the above it is satisfactory to report that the services of Nurses engaged in Private Nursing realised £324 8s., or £43 more than in 1888, and that repayment has been obtained of income-tax deducted from dividends to the extent of £56 3s. 8d., and also that the systematic training of Probationers is being carried on, and a staff of Nurses thoroughly trained and experienced is available for nursing patients in their homes. The Board of Management have under their consideration the question of the still further development of this branch of the Hospital work. My advice is, "Get the Hospital out of debt, even at the risk of reducing the establishment." One feature I admire greatly in the statement is that a *detailed* account of the disbursements is given, an example which should be followed by all similar Institutions.

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I HAVE much pleasure in stating that Miss Chapman and Miss Nyström, the pioneers of the Sloyd system of manual training in England, have been holding large classes since last September, in connection with the middle-class schools of St. John the Divine, Kennington. In order that it may be seen how the system has been worked out to suit English schools, these ladies will receive visitors on Easter Monday, and the three following days, from three to five p.m., to show their Institute and the work of their pupils to all persons interested in manual training.

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THE new Gainsborough Nursing Association evidently means business, judging from the fact that the following gentlemen have been elected to act on the General Committee:—Sir H. B. Bacon, Bart., Rev. Canon Warner, Rev. Canon Hodgkinson, Rev. C. E. Laing, and Messrs. James Marshall, J.P., H. D.

Marshall, A. Iveson, Newsum, T. A. Dyson, F. A. Gamble, G. Housham, and Thomas Layne; while Mr. Fletcher Mercer was requested to act as Secretary, and Mr. George Parker as Treasurer. A Ladies' Committee, to whom has been committed all matters relating to the duties of the Nurse, has also been chosen as follows:—Mrs. Warner, Mrs. Hodgkinson, Mrs. J. Marshall, Mrs. H. D. Marshall, Mrs. Clarkson, Mrs. Iveson, Mrs. Mercer, Mrs. Forrest, Mrs. F. A. Gamble, Mrs. Housham, Mrs. Craven, and Miss Dora Laing, with Miss Burton as Lady Superintendent. The annual subscriptions already promised amount to £105. S. G.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

THE LADY CHEMIST.

CERTAINLY women now fearlessly tread where once they would never have dared to enter. One would have considered the chemist's shop peculiarly sacred to the solemn soapy-mannered "dispenser," who moves so methodically and with so dignified a manner, taking down slowly first this bottle, then that, then the other marked so big, "Poison," whilst the customer looks on with a sense of reverential awe, caused primarily by those empty coloured jars, which seem to be ever accessories to the apothecary's stock-in-trade. But even behind the beloved shade of his red and blue protectors he has not been able to escape the new invading army of bright-eyed Amazons, for since the Pharmaceutical Society has allowed women to enter for its examinations, sprightly maidens have taken the place in some instances of the lordly dispenser, and though less awe-inspiring, have proved no whit less satisfactory, but as yet they are only few and far between, like veritable angels' visits. Of course, to start a chemist's establishment capital is needed (about from £600 to £1,000, according to size and style of shop). The chance of success is fair, for it is a fact that chemists have occasionally been able to retire comfortably at near middle age, and some grow rich apace. I presume also that my lady friends will use water of necessity with their prescriptions, and water is cheap, especially "en gros." To become a pharmaceutical chemist it is necessary to pass three examinations—a preliminary one in Latin, English, and arithmetic, unless the candidate can show a certificate to prove she has passed the Oxford and Cambridge locals, or the examination of the College of Preceptors; the other two are more technical, and before preparing to pass them the examinee must prove she has undergone training under some experienced chemist, or at one of the

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