

some time past) that the very excellent Santa Claus Society is making an appeal for still further help. It needs no feeble words of mine to emphasise the importance of such an institution, and I therefore earnestly hope that all, every one, of those of our readers who can, will do their utmost to further the well-being of the Society, which is so thoroughly deserving of every possible support. The fifth annual report, just issued, is full of significant interest, and I am grieved to note therein that the cash in hand (Convalescent Fund Account) represents the painfully modest sum of only twenty-one shillings and sevenpence halfpenny. If I were a rich person—which unfortunately I am not by any means—I should send most of my spare five pound notes to Miss J. F. Charles, the energetic manageress, who would, I feel sure, expend them on behalf of those little mites who go so much to make the score of our common humanity as judiciously and economically as anybody.

A BATCH of reports, &c., have reached me, and include those of the Devon and Exeter Hospital, which shows that, during the year just closed, no fewer than one thousand two hundred and seventy-nine patients were admitted to the Hospital, and the daily number of beds occupied was one hundred and seventy-five, in addition to which there were two thousand six hundred and twenty-seven out-patients. The one hundred and twenty-fourth—almost patriarchal—annual report of the Staffordshire General Infirmary, a record of an exceedingly satisfactory work, though the balance of accounts is on the wrong side. The twenty-third report of the Institution for Nurses, Lincoln, which speaks volumes for the administrative ability of Miss Bromhead. The report of the Samaritan Hospital for Women, Nottingham, in which I am greatly pleased to note that the committee are glad to report that the financial position of the Institution has much improved during the past year. The liabilities due December 31, 1888—viz., £681 5s. 5d.—were reduced on the 31st December, 1889, by the sum of £301 4s. 8d. Of this amount, £270, as before stated, consisted of the net proceeds of the bazaar; the remaining £31 4s. 8d. was derived from the excess of income over expenditure during the past twelve months. The committee consider this is a very satisfactory feature of last year's work. The committee have not omitted to express their regret that Miss Nicholas, the Matron of the In-patient Hospital, has tendered her resignation of that post; and they desire to acknowledge the great assistance rendered by her in making the work of the Institution so successful, and the loss sustained by them in the withdrawal of her valuable services.

THE report of the Mary Wardell Convalescent Home for Scarlet Fever, Stanmore, shows that 211 patients were admitted to the Home during the year 1889, as follows:—Children one year old and under, 1; children seven years old and under, 74; children twelve years old and under, 65; adults twenty years old and under, 44; adults above twenty years old, 27; total, 211. Of these 106 were treated previously at their own residences, 78 at the London Fever Hospital, 6 at the Metropolitan Asylums' Board Hospitals, 21 at other Hospitals. The classes to which they belonged were:—22 children of professional men, private gentlemen, merchants, &c.; 17 children of clerks, schoolmasters, &c.; 31 children of tradesmen; 30 children of post-office, police, and other Government officials, gentlemen's servants, railway employés, &c.; 51 children of mechanics, shopmen, labourers, needlewomen, charwomen, &c.; 31 children from homes, orphanages, and other charitable institutions; five Trained Nurses; nine female servants, dressmakers, needlewomen, &c.; 12 other adult patients; three Nurses or relatives who had been in attendance on patients during their illness.

FROM the sixth annual report of the Homes for Inebriates Association and Dalrymple Home at Rickmansworth I cull the following interesting statistics:—"During the six and a-half years that the Home has been open there have been 201 admissions. Of 183 who have left, the after history of 158 is known. Seven are dead, one is in an asylum, 88 are doing well, five have improved, and 57 are not improved. Thus considerably more than one-half have done well, though the average duration of the inebriate excess has been eight and a-half years."

THE twenty-seventh annual report of the Hospital for Sick Children (Fleming Memorial Hospital), Newcastle-on-Tyne, states that—"During the entire year an average number of forty cots have been regularly occupied, and from the report of the Medical Officers it will be seen that the work which has been accomplished is of a much more comprehensive nature than was possible in the old premises. Many operations of a serious nature have been undertaken, and, consequent on the appointment of a Resident Medical Officer, the Committee decided to open the Hospital for accident cases, several of which have, from time to time, been admitted."

WHILST the "Staffordshire Institution for Nurses" report mentions that during the year five hundred cases have been attended, and many have had to be refused, no Nurses being available at

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