

fortune, laid out and furnished a garden with an orchestra, a coffee-room, and decorations for the entertainment of the public, whereon he expended two thousand pounds sterling. He then employed a band of music, and soon found his expectations fulfilled, by a constant resort of company during the summer season, which produced near four hundred pounds sterling annually."

Sir William Smyly relates that, having raised all the money he could on his own credit, Dr. Mosse unfortunately had recourse to lottery schemes, then much in vogue. Although he at first succeeded in raising £8,000, yet they ultimately failed and involved him in debt and difficulty.

Dr. Mosse, like so many others of single purpose, was subjected to aspersions upon his character, and his enemies did not hesitate to accuse him of most sordid motives, stating that he extorted large sums of money which he would put into his own pocket, and, when occasion presented itself, abscond. He, therefore, to obviate suspicion, executed a declaration of trust, and made over the lease in trust to three gentlemen of note.

Up to 1755—that is to say, in about ten years—Dr. Mosse had raised nearly £12,000, partly from subscriptions, but mostly by plays, concerts, oratorios, and schemes of various kinds which he devised and conducted. In that year all his resources seemed exhausted; we read that he was "overwhelmed with debt and hourly threatened with arrest," but, undaunted, he petitioned the Irish House of Commons, and received an immediate grant of £6,000. Two years later a similar sum was awarded, and, we are glad to say, he himself received a grant of £2,000 in recognition of his work. In 1757 Dr. Mosse obtained a Royal Charter, and was himself appointed Master of the Hospital, and at the close of that year the hospital was opened for the reception of patients by his Grace the Duke of Bedford, then the Lord Lieutenant. "Afterwards," Sir William Smyly, quoting again from the old manuscript, records, "fifty-two poor women, great with child, attended in the hall, with proper certificates for admission, and were all decently clad in uniform at the expense of the hospital, each in a blue calamanco gown and petticoat, shift, handkerchief, cap, and apron, and thus they appeared before his Grace, as President of the Hospital, the Duchess, and the rest of the Governors and Guardians, with many of the nobility and gentry, who all expressed the highest satisfaction."

Unfortunately, Dr. Mosse did not long survive the completion of the hospital, having

injured his health by close attention to its business.

"On the 16th of February, 1759, he expired in the forty-seventh year of his age, having in the face of difficulties, slander, and poverty, founded an institution capable of freely receiving within its walls all who might apply for admittance, having poverty as their plea, and the pains of approaching childbirth as the grounds of their request."

All lovers of history are indebted to Sir William Smyly for having placed on record the early history of the foundation of a noble charity.

### Demand for Midwives in Sussex.

The Sussex County Nursing Association is appealing for financial support, in order to meet the demand for midwives in the county. In this connection, the Medical Officer of Health for East Sussex, reporting to the County Council, states:—

"Though the East Sussex area probably presents a higher proportion of trained to untrained midwives than any other county area in England and Wales, under the present local distribution of the midwives there are still many places in which the services of a certified midwife (much less of a trained certified midwife) are not available. Consequently, there are, at the present time, a considerable number of women who have to depend at the time of their confinement upon the dangerous assistance to be obtained from untrained women, who are neither trained as midwives, nor under the supervision of the local supervising authority.

"While the trained certified midwives are, as a whole, an excellent body of comparatively young and competent women, the question of the untrained midwives is far otherwise. These women are mostly old, and in spite of the care and trouble which has been taken by the County Inspector of Midwives to improve them, many of them discharge their duties inefficiently. Of the 93 untrained certified midwives, now practising in the county, several are in receipt of parish relief, and already it is known that at least four others have obtained old age pensions. Probably a majority of the untrained midwives soon will be qualified by age for the latter relief, and it is almost certain that the next few years will see a heavy fall in the numbers of untrained midwives."

### INFANT LIFE PROTECTION BILL.

Lord Robert Cecil has presented in the House of Commons a Bill "to prevent the destruction of children during birth." The measure, which has been read a first time, is backed by Mr. Shackleton, Mr. Chiozza Money, and Mr. Simon.

### L.C.C. CLASSES.

Separate classes have now been arranged under the London County Council for Midwives and Maternity nurses. No maternity nurses will in future be admitted to the classes for practising midwives.

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