

bably be opened early in the spring for the reception of Nurses. From the very many inquiries which we have received on the subject, I have no doubt that the great difficulty which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will have to contend with will be how to find room for the many tired Nurses who will wish to avail themselves of the benefits of her scheme. When it was first propounded, we prophesied in these columns that it would meet a great want, and was sure to be successful, and we are naturally glad to find our prediction already almost fulfilled.

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Truth has hit the nail very straight on the head in some of its comments in last week's issue on the St. Bartholomew's investigation. If the words be taken to refer to the London Hospital, it exactly expresses our feelings also: "It is utterly distasteful to me to continue week after week advertising the shortcomings of a valuable public institution, and exposing to discredit a number of gentlemen who may abound in private virtues. This course, however, is forced upon me by the extraordinary attitude which these gentlemen have taken up. I hold that when statements impugning the efficiency and the good management of an important public institution are made in a journal of wide and general circulation, it behoves the parties impeached to meet the charges fairly and squarely. Were such charges made by any other journal instead of *Truth*, my opinion would be the same. When, instead of being answered in that way, such charges are met either by obstinate silence, or, still worse, by evasive, disingenuous and misleading replies, my inference is, not merely that the charges of mismanagement are unanswerable, but that the managers are under a misconception as to their duty to the public, and that a radical reform in the government of the institution is required."

S. G.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

A POOR needlewoman has lately died in Edinburgh, by name Mrs. Muir, who, according to her own story—and there is nothing unlikely in it—was the daughter of the poet Campbell. Poets are not noted for the money they make, but for the songs and poems they write; and so the children of a man of genius may easily become—as in this sad instance—dependent on the weak little needle for bread. But this was surely a case for the Civil Service Pension Lists, only, alas! such pensions generally go to the rich, and to those who have friends who can interest themselves in their behalf, and not to

those who are really entitled to them—*i.e.*, the poor and friendless.

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A GOOD memory is useful in its way, although the happy owner often remembers things it were "wiser to forget." It is, however, seldom that memory has been used as a means of getting that necessity of necessities in this weary world, I mean the "ruddy gold," as the poets call it. But such an instance occurred lately. An English lady, finding that after two or three visits to the theatre she was able to repeat word for word the piece played, turned her talent into hard cash by sending out new plays to the colonies by the next week's mail, after the play was produced in London, thus doing away with author's copyright, &c., and getting well paid for her strange services. But it is a question whether such action be not illegal.

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ANOTHER branch home in connection with the Flower Girls' Guild has lately been opened at 3, Holland Place, Church Street, Kensington, and now most of the girls in High Street wear the uniform of the Guild, which is exceedingly popular with the class for which it is designed.

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MISS MARY ANDERSON has fully determined never to act again, and has proved her determination by refusing the offer of £1,000 a week, which enormous sum was offered her by an enterprising manager. To prevent him from over-persuading her, she refused even to see her tempter. It is said her resolution is actuated by religious motives.

* * *

LADY compositors have proved very successful apparently at their calling, for the other day an old established printer, who has had plenty of experience, told me that they set type better and quicker than their male competitors. Here they must inevitably pause, however, for when it comes to the working of machinery man's greater strength of muscle prevails. One reason of their success may be owing to the fact that they (the lady compositors) are always well educated, which cannot be said of compositors in general, who, strange to say, are very often quite a low class of men.

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ACCORDING to the *Woman's Herald*, there are about twenty-five thousand school teachers in Pennsylvania alone. Those who like problems in the rule of three might next be asked, how many teachers therefore are there in the whole United States? Anyway, in the state named after Penn the Quaker the young' idea will not yet

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