

abuse prominently forward. At a meeting lately held by the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association the following Resolutions were proposed and carried unanimously:—

"Whereas, it has become the custom at several public hospitals to admit patients into their wards who pay the sum of two guineas and upwards—the cost of such patients to the institution certainly not exceeding half the amount of such payments—and for such patients to receive gratuitous medical advice. And, whereas it is becoming the custom to permit large numbers of persons who are in easy, or even in affluent circumstances, to attend the out-patient departments of general, and of special, hospitals, thereby often depriving more suitable applicants of gratuitous medical aid, while expending the funds of the institution upon persons undeserving of charity. Therefore, be it Resolved,—That this meeting considers that public hospitals being charitable institutions should not be converted into commercial undertakings; and that the admission of patients to any hospital who pay more than the actual cost of their board, implies the conversion of part of that hospital into a lodging-house, conducted for the purpose of profit; and is a custom, therefore, which is destructive of any claim on the part of that hospital to deserve charitable support."

"That no hospital has the moral right to sweat the physicians and surgeons comprising its medical staff; and that to compel them to afford gratuitous advice to patients, upon whom the institution makes a pecuniary profit, is degrading alike to the medical profession, and to the institution which carries out such a practice."

"That hospitals have no legal right to misappropriate the funds entrusted to them by the charitable, for the sole benefit of the sick poor, in order to afford gratuitous medical aid to persons who are well able to obtain such assistance at their own cost."

"... That this meeting therefore requests the Incorporated Medical Practitioners' Association to take steps to draw the attention of the public to the fact that certain hospitals have been converted practically into commercial undertakings, and to the perversion of funds by the managers of certain hospitals to purposes altogether alien to the intentions of the donors of such funds. Those present pledge themselves to give all the assistance in their power to the Association in this matter . . ."

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THE following, according to the *Central News*, is a description, given by the Captain of an American war-ship, of a visit paid by him to a Japanese Hospital, where some few Chinese are under treatment:—

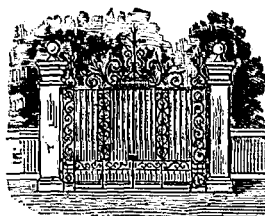
There I got a fair conception of the killing and wounding qualities of the new small-bore rifle that all Europe is adopting. The Japanese infantry arm is the Murata, the invention of General Murata, now Chief of Ordnance of Japan. The calibre of the rifle is .315, and the bullet weighs 235 grains.

I saw a Chinese officer who had been struck in the knee-joint by one of these bullets fired at a distance of about 1,000 yards. The thin steel envelope of the bullet had broken, and the joint was simply a mass of comminuted bone splinters. The knee was perfectly soft without a bone in it unbroken an inch long. Of course the leg had to be amputated.

The Hospital was the admiration of the English and French surgeons, as well as our own. The medical staff were all Japanese who had graduated in medicine and surgery, either in America or England, and then taken a post graduate course in clinics at the Paris and Berlin Hospitals. They had the best modern instruments and systems, the newest antiseptics—everything a Hospital on modern lines should have. And all this is the work of a generation,

— Outside the Gates. —

WOMEN.



"Look backward, look outward, look forward," is an appropriate aphorism at the opening of a new year. 1894 has already lapsed into the past; we have cut the thread and fibres that bound us to it; it is something waiting only to be pigeon-holed and docketed, and assigned to its allotted niche on the shelf of Time; to be pointed to either for warning or for encouragement.

As women, what can we say of 1894? At the beginning we saw the passing of the Local Government Act; at the end we were able to realise something of what it meant; for by it women were so far acknowledged as to be allowed a place in the Parish Councils, District Councils, the Vestries, and the Boards of Guardians. True, a few women, previous to the passing of this Act, sat in solitary grandeur amid their male kind; but now that the property qualification has been made less rigorous, we shall doubtless find that a goodly proportion of women have taken advantage of the enfranchisement. So far as has yet been ascertained it is believed that many women have been elected. But till the Local Government Board, or the Society for the Return of Women as Poor Law Guardians, have issued their official reports, we forbear to anticipate.

Turning to the matter of appointments, at the Bromley Union Board of Guardians, Miss Ellen Grimsby was elected to the position of Master's Clerk; and another lady was appointed overseer for the Parish of Telford, near Freshford, Bath. Again, in official circles, we find that, under the Infant Life Protection and Shop Hours Act, Miss J. G. Smith, has been given a post as Inspector, and Miss Deane and Miss A. M. Anderson have been made Inspectors of Workshops and Factories; and the London County Council appointed Mrs. Kemp as Lecturer on Health.

Thus far, in regard to municipality, has Women's Suffrage been advanced. We yet await the Parliamentary Franchise. But the Westminster machinery is cumbrous and slow. The Colonies have not this heavy machinery to contend with; and South Australia has, during the past twelve months, granted Women's Suffrage.

In the departments allied to Nursing there have been many successes scored for women. First and foremost, the University of Edinburgh has agreed to confer degrees in medicine on women, thanks to the heroic efforts of women of the stamp of Dr. Sophia Jex Blake. The Claybury new Asylum has a lady doctor, Miss Sinclair, in succession to Miss Benson, M.D., who resigned shortly after her appointment to take a Government position in a Madras Hospital. The Royal Free Hospital, London, has appointed Miss Aldrich Blake as Assistant Anæsthetist. Everywhere, in India as well as England, in Japan, in Turkey, the lady doctor has planted herself and intends to stay.

But, during the past year, in spite of the inquiries and reports of a few persevering women, police matrons

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