who have worked such a marvellous change in Egypt. Every department is emerging from the chaos which so long reigned supreme.

ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held on the 28th March under the presidency of Sir James Crichton-Browne, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Lord Chancellor's Visitor. The audience, including (amongst others) Mrs. Creighton, wife of the Bishop of London, Mrs. Langdon-Down, Miss Honnor Morten, L.S.B., Dr. David Nicolson, C.B. (Lord Chancellor's Visitor), Mr. Bagot, Commissioner in Lunacy, Mr. F. D. Mocatta, the Rev. H. Hawkins, Drs. Alexander, Bower, Cassidy, Chambers, Elkins, Haslett, Gardiner Hill, P. Langdon-Down, Neil, Stilwell, Savage, and Outterson Wood. Miss Crouchley, Miss Warren, and other asylum matrons were present.

The President gave an eloquent and interesting address on the objects of the Association, especially dwelling on the misrepresentations recently made in regard to the training of asylum nurses.

The report of the Committee showed that the membership of the Association had risen from 2013 to 2534 during the past year (1897), and stated that an employment bureau (for male attendants only), under the auspices of the Association, had been established at 10, Thayer Street, Manchester Square, W.

The accounts showed a satisfactory balance at the end of the year.

MALE NURSES' (TEMPERANCE) CO-OPERATION.

The annual report of this co-operative society shows that it has continued to thrive during the present year.

The staff, it is reported, has considerably increased during the year, yet the average earnings per man, after paying all expenses, have been a little over £102.

The Sick Fund established last year has been drawn on only to the extent of 8½*d.* per member.

The report affirms that the tendency to employ male nurses for male cases is increasing, and that applications are being received from provincial hospitals for young men with asylum experience for employment in the male wards and about the hospital.

The co-operative principle is steadily growing in many directions, and it is satisfactory to note the success of it in this particular form.

THE UNFORTUNATE MIDDLE CLASSES.*

"Passing reference was made at the last meeting of the City Council to a deficiency in our lunatic asylum system which is deserving of much more attention than it has hitherto received. This is the provision of accommodation for lunatics of the middle or lower middle class, to form a connecting link between the existing pauper institutions and the private retreats where the fees are such as can only be paid by people in comparatively affluent circumstances. We are wont to indulge, not without reason, in a good deal of self-satisfaction at the reforms which the present century has wrought in the treatment of the insane. A hundred years ago the attitude of the community towards those of its members who were mentally infirm was one of wanton savagery; to-day local authorities are held responsible by the State for the proper care and efficient medical treatment of all such lunatics as cannot be satisfactorily provided for by their friends.

* From the *Birmingham Daily Post*, May 12th, 1898.

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