

**Miss Leigh's Work in Paris.**

A meeting has just been held in London, in a drawing-room of Lord Shaftesbury's town house, Grosvenor's square, under the presidency of the venerable and noble owner, to hear a statement from Miss Leigh as to the work she is carrying on—more especially among young English and American women—in the French capital.

Ten years ago, she said, the Home was opened with twelve beds. Last year 422 were admitted, nearly all being entire strangers. Of these not two thirds could pay for their support; the need for help was, therefore, very great. Having given several instances of the extreme want in which well-educated English girls were to be met with in Paris, Miss Leigh stated that during the past ten years 3,001 young women had been admitted to the Home. Of the French schools a very unfavorable picture was drawn, and parents were strongly cautioned to enquire well into the characters of those institutions before sending their children to them. Besides the Home there was an association for artists and governesses, with which some 160 young ladies were united. A Young Women's Christian Association for young persons in shops, had also been formed, which was doing great good. The Kindergarten for young children formed another branch of work. No less than 22,000 English poor, again, were to be found in Paris, and for their relief during the winter a soup-kitchen was opened. A graphic picture of the persons attending this soup-kitchen was drawn, among the persons relieved being an English Senior Wrangler, who could speak sixteen languages, and a prima donna who had lost her voice! A Mission Hall for gospel services had also been established, and an orphanage opened, which sheltered 230 English children. The desertion of wives and children in Paris was, we were assured, only too common, and one or two painful examples were given. As a result of this state of things, some 240 children between the ages of seven and fifteen had committed suicide during nine years.

These statements were heard with deep interest, and appropriate action was taken. Then the Rev. Dr. Clay moved a resolution to the effect that Parliament should be appealed to in order to secure a modification of the French mar-

riage law, which at present enables a Frenchman who marries a lady in England without the consent of his parents, to repudiate the marriage. This having been carried, Lord Shaftesbury referred to the excess in numbers of women over men, which compelled them to seek a living abroad. The multiplication of governesses, however, he thought, was going on too rapidly, for there were about 10,000 governesses for every 1,000 families. Young women, he believed, would be far better off if trained to domestic work.—*Sel.*

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