

Nurses ; for the removal from the Register of those who prove themselves unworthy of trust ; for the annual publication of the Register ; and for the infliction of heavy penalties upon those infringing the Act. We commend this action of the Cape Parliament to Lord Salisbury, and trust that he will take measures as speedily as possible to accord a similar measure of protection to the public, and a similar measure of justice to trained Nurses in the United Kingdom."

THE thirty-four caps, including that of the winner and the six "honourable mentions," selected from those sent in for *The Nursing Record* Special Prize Competition, will be on view at the show-rooms of the Vertical Feed Sewing Machine Company, 24, Aldersgate Street, E.C., every day until further notice.

ONE of the points much commented upon during the recent Homerton Hospital inquiry was the dancing in the Wards. Of all places that could be chosen for a dance, none could be much more unfitted for the purpose, in the eyes of the laity, than a Hospital Ward, a place set apart for the sick and dying. That authorities who permit dancing and entertainments of a like nature in Hospitals and Infirmarys can have very little feeling for the "eternal fitness of things" is self-evident. To say, "Let the Nurses, poor things, enjoy themselves," is an easy-going, good-tempered way of excusing what is in reality a gross breach of good taste and good feeling. There is a time to dance and be merry, and a time to be serious. Considering the ghastly incongruity of these gambols, and the surroundings amid which they were indulged in, it is surprising that more outcry has not been made, nor more umbrage taken at them. No one wishes Nurses and House Surgeons to be debarred from all amusement and recreation, but surely their more riotous amusements should be restricted to the outside of the Hospital walls. Anybody who is sensitive will be shocked and hurt ; anybody with any common sense, astonished at the lack of self-restraint in those who lay their institutions open to so much blame and censure for the sake of a little personal enjoyment.

MISS M'DONNELL, Matron of the Clare County Infirmary, has resigned her appointment, as the Board refused to ratify the engagement of a Nurse who was a Protestant. This is only another instance of that spirit of intolerance with which a few of our charitable institutions are still tainted, a relic of the narrow-minded bigotry of a by-gone age, which is entirely in discord with the large-hearted spirit of true charity. It

is not so many months ago since the Committee of the Norwich Hospital was agitated with the question as to whether it should not compel its Matron to resign, because she had left the English, for the Roman Catholic, Church. Fortunately the motion was not carried. The sooner larger and more tolerant views are not only general, but universal, the better the opinion the public will entertain of the good sense of Hospital Boards and Committees. Surely women of all denominations can, now in the later half of the nineteenth century, meet and work amicably together on the vast common ground of humanity.

AT a post-mortem examination recently made on a patient who died under chloroform at the Blackburn Infirmary, death was found to have been due to a lump of undigested food, which was vomited into the gullet, stuck there, and choked the man. This case is of interest to Nurses, proving as it does, once again, the necessity for careful preparation before an anæsthetic is given. If the patient in question had not in some way procured solid food too soon before the operation, there is no reason for supposing that the chloroform would have proved fatal to him. In view of the increased number of deaths under anæsthetics which appear to have taken place lately, it behoves all Nurses to be exceedingly careful that such part of the preparation of the patient as forms their duty shall be most carefully and conscientiously attended to.

MOST Nurses can recollect the cholera scare of a few years ago, when all kinds of preparations were made to meet the expected grim guest who was raging in the South of Europe. But we were mercifully spared, and the scare only proved useful—as the cholera itself had done by more drastic and awful means in 1866—in stirring up the sanitary authorities to a keener supervision, for the time being, of slums and dust-bins. Just now the terrible scourge is apparently looming again in the distance. According to Dr. Proust, of Paris, a cholera epidemic has broken out in the East, and, taking a north-easterly direction, has reached Aintah, on the highway from Aleppo, slaying from two thousand to two thousand five hundred a day. At Hedjaz, where the pilgrims greatly congregate, ten thousand are said to have died. There is not much danger of its crossing the Mediterranean to Europe, but there is, of course, always the risk of its being conveyed over in some ship touching at infected ports. The outbreak on board the British men-of-war at Bombay will, however, bring more home to us the existence of that terrible enemy, who is so common and fatal in India, and so well known to

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