

'Hospital Porters,' or for 'Hospital Secretaries'? Each of these would be just as reasonably promoted as has been the Fund for Nurses. Furthermore, how has it come to be conceded that the ordinary channels of insurance are not good enough for Nurses, and that in order to partake in annuity benefits they could only do so effectively for themselves by joining a Fund promoted for their own class? To our mind, the whole scheme is an utter absurdity, and this fact is only emphasised when, as it has been pointed out, the Nurses are called upon to pay much higher premiums to their own Fund than any old established insurance office would require of them. But if any more evidence were considered necessary to condemn the Fund, this may be found in the balance-sheet of its Report for 1892 which its managers have just issued. Under the heading of expenses of management no less a sum than £1,667 9s. 3d. has been expended—an item which we can not stigmatise otherwise than as monstrous, and as calling for serious inquiry by those who are interested in the Fund."

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THE *British Medical Journal* says, on the same subject: "The only subject on which we feel induced to suggest criticism is that of expenses of management; they amount to £1,380. Comparing with this the total annual expenditure of the Medical Sickness and Assurance Society, which distributes twenty times the amount of sick pay, and has altogether heavier work, and is managed at a third of the cost, there seems to be room for greater economy. Salaries amount to £677, which seems excessive, and 'office charges' to £233, besides rent £105. It is not easy to see why these charges should not be reduced by more than half. It is surely unnecessary to load this annuity fund—which, of course, is paying as yet very few annuities—with so heavy an outlay for management. At any rate, medical men may be congratulated that their medical brethren who constitute the executive council of the Medical Sickness and Assurance Society are able to manage the much heavier weekly business of that prosperous and useful society at 70 per cent. less for cost of management than the eminent manager of this kindred Society."

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A CORRESPONDENT writes: "During a recent visit to Brighton, I paid a visit, with a friend,

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to the New Infirmary, in connection with the Workhouse, which has lately been built beyond the Queen's Park. It is built in two pavilions, containing about one hundred and sixty beds, and from its situation commands a magnificent view of the Downs. The internal arrangements of the Infirmary would delight Miss TWINING'S heart, everything for the comfort of the patient having been taken into consideration—spring mattresses with substantial wool overlays, excellent and snowy bed linen, a perfect system of warming and ventilating, and beautiful oak-blocked floors, highly polished, to be envied by many of our leading Hospitals. The Wards, which contain about thirty beds, were bright with flowers and pictures, and I noticed that the appliances were all specklessly bright and in excellent order. Each Ward opened out on to a balcony, and the tiled bath-rooms and lavatories were airy and commodious. We visited the bright little kitchens, and had a cup of first-rate tea in the Head Nurse's room, who is greatly to be congratulated upon the order and cleanliness of the department under her charge. During our visit the Chaplain came in, bringing with him a whiff of the outside world. In his hand, a bag stuffed with useful gifts, warm woollen shawls, &c., for the older patients, and tasty Japanese fans for Nurse's room, 'towards furnishing,' as he laughingly said. She was a new-comer, and had not had time to make her own particular apartment 'quite like home.' As I watched the genuine pleasure which the visit of this good man gave to Nurses and patients, Mr. RATHBONE'S recent uncharitable attack upon Hospital Chaplains recurred to my mind."

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I LEARN that Miss MARY EWING has been appointed Matron to the Broomhill Home for Incurables, Kirkintilloch. Miss EWING was trained first at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, and afterwards at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and has also worked at the Royal Infirmary and Children's Hospital, Aberdeen. For the last two years Miss EWING has had charge of a Surgical Ward in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, where she commenced work in January, 1883. S. G.

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