

escape from the continuance of the investigation, but vainly. At an early date, disgusted with the obvious efforts of the Matteists to evade a fair trial, Mr. Lawson Tait seems to have retired, but nevertheless, a strict weekly observation by Dr. Potter as chairman of the committee, by a registrar specially appointed, and by other members of the committee, was made. The result has been, as might have been expected, complete failure, and Dr. Potter adds that, while the chemical analysis of the so-called "electricities" of Mattei by Mr. Stokes show that they contain no more active ingredient than distilled water, the clinical results fully confirm the analysis. The investigation is now at an end, and full details will, it is believed, be published by Mr. Stead. The *British Medical Journal* adds that no other result could have been expected in respect to a so-called "treatment" obviously founded on such false and ridiculous pretensions, and this affords only one more instance of the extraordinary credulity of the mass of mankind and the facility with which they accept the most outrageous statements of ignorant quacks.

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THE Seventh Annual Report of the Burton-on-Trent Nursing Institution is interesting in several ways. It tells of a very large amount of work well done. The Institution undertakes both District

and Private Nursing, and very wisely keeps the two departments separate in the Report. In the former branch there were, in 1891, 575 patients, as against 514 in 1890, and 15,730 visits were paid, as against 10,410. This very abnormal increase in the number of visits per patient is explained by the fact that there were no less than 113 typhoid fever cases. It is a very satisfactory fact that "none who applied for help were left unattended. The Committee voted the sum of £18 amongst the three Nurses. Like so many other Nursing Institutions, a system of Night Nursing has been started, one Nurse being specially set aside for this purpose, and naturally it has proved most useful and popular, often, doubtless, allowing the breadwinner to get his night's sleep and so to continue at work. The balance sheet shows that the work is more than solvent, but it contains an item—"Expenses during illness of Nurses, £15 9s. 4d."—to which I will allude directly.

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THE Private Nursing Department has also progressed. Sixty-four cases have had to be refused from want of Nurses, 102 patients have been nursed, £500 received in fees, and the small debt on the Institution has been reduced. The private Nurses were used for District work during the stress of the influenza and typhoid epidemics. The balance sheet of this department also shows the

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