

sickness. He lamented to say the introduction of the legal assessment for the poor injured that tone very much, and he saw afterwards there was nothing like that ministry of love which existed previously. He thought they had deteriorated since then. Nursing was a most important part in the treatment of the sick, and the doctor instanced that in his early days, when an epidemic broke out in Stirling, Dr. FORREST and he tried an experiment, and instead of giving medicine they prescribed soup, soup, soup, and out of 230 cases he thought they only lost one, and that one would not take the soup. (Laughter.) He hoped the society would be strengthened and encouraged in their work.

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THE following dramatic story was elicited at an inquest on a Nurse named ANNIE BOSTON, aged 29, who died suddenly, the other day, at Miss CATHERINE J. WOOD'S Hostel, in, Percy Street, Tottenham Court Road:—

"Mrs. Isabella Boston, of Melrose, Roxburghshire, aunt of the deceased, said the latter's mother, who lived in Selkirkshire was unable to attend. The deceased suddenly left her situation as Night Nurse at the Home for Incurables, Carlisle, and came to London on Friday, 21st April. She never informed her relatives of her intentions. She was a "a very self-willed person," and never sought or took advice. Witness's belief was that her niece desired a situation as Night Nurse, where she could learn how to dispense medicine as well. She had been a teacher and, except that she passed through London once in that capacity, she knew nothing of town. A phial, which had apparently contained morphia, was found in a cupboard beside the deceased's bed, and in her writing-book was discovered a pencilled letter addressed to Miss Eva Grueber, a nurse staying at the hostel with whom Miss Boston had formed a friendship. Torn small pieces of paper strewn about the bed when picked up and put together were found to contain the words similar to the note address to Miss Grueber which was intact and was as follows:—

Dear Miss Grueber,—You now know where I have gone. What about your dream? Has it come true? Think of me going in for dispensing in the higher regions! I suppose I shall never know what I have 'wilfully prevented,' but I know that wherever I have gone those who did their best to get me put out of my last situation would do so again; and longer life only means more suffering for me.

* * *

Miss Eva Grueber, in explanation of this letter, said that on Tuesday night, while sleeping close to deceased, she (witness) had a dream of death, and as she was in the habit of talking in her sleep, she exclaimed, 'Now you must lay her out'—words which Miss Boston heard and repeated to her when she awoke. Hence, perhaps, the reference to a dream in the note. As to the words 'wilfully prevented,' written within inverted commas, this was probably referable to a conversation witness had with the deceased on the subject of 'will power.' Miss Boston was anxious to add to her quali-

fications that of being able to dispense medicines, and that might account for her strange allusion to 'dispensing in the higher regions.' She was disappointed at not receiving a letter. She told witness that if she got the letter she might stay at the hostel a few days longer; if not, she would have to go.—The Coroner: Did she say where to?—Witness: No, she would not.—The Coroner: That perhaps explains her expression, 'You know now where I have gone.' (To the aunt): Did she write to her friends for money?—The aunt: No; she never communicated with her friends. She left two situations before in a similarly sudden and mysterious manner. She was very reticent and self-willed.—Dr. Garlick, who had made an autopsy, said that he found the deceased to be suffering from disease of the kidneys and heart—two very depressing ailments. In her physical condition the slightest dose of morphia was likely to have a fatal effect. In the result, the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while of unsound mind."

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MANY Nurses will be glad to hear that Miss VICTORIA JONES, the much respected late Matron of Guy's Hospital, has been elected one of the Guardians of the Poor for Ealing, a position in which her professional knowledge and experience will probably prove to be invaluable.

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I HEAR that Miss ANNIE MULLIGAN has been appointed Matron of the Wolverhampton Borough Hospital. She was trained at Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital; Dublin, and then worked in the same Institution as Sister until 1891, when she acted for a year as Sister at the Children's Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whence she went as Sister to the Monsall Fever Hospital. Miss MULLIGAN is a member of the R.B.N.A. and a Registered Nurse.

* * *

THE following letter, which recently appeared in the *Auckland Star*, might be copied with much advantage into every paper in the United Kingdom:—

SIR,—Auckland people have just shown they can be generous to strangers, will they not also display some kindness towards those dwelling in their midst? It will cost them hardly anything. The Nurses at the Hospital have found this hot weather very trying, and, probably feel as much disinclination for solid food as many of us. A present of a little fruit would therefore be very acceptable; even fallen apples, peaches, etc., would be welcomed. Lemons are exceedingly refreshing, and many people in or near Auckland have more than they require for their own use. Tomatoes are healthful, and plentiful this year, but they do not grow in the Nurses' home. Trusting a liberal answer will be made to this appeal,—I am, etc.,

A RECENT HOSPITAL VISITOR.

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I HAVE always taken much interest in the progress of the Stockton and Thornaby Nursing Association, and am very pleased to learn the excellent report

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