

The Hospital World.

A RECORD OF HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION NEWS AND WORK.

No. 48.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1893.

VOL. III.

Van Houten's PURE. SOLUBLE. EASILY DIGESTED. **Cocoa**

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL says:—

“In flavour it is **perfect** and it is **so pure** and **well prepared.**”

“May with great advantage be **largely used** in **public Institutions** as well as in **private families.**”

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Editorial.

POOR LAW INFIRMARIES.

CONSIDERABLE indignation has been aroused amongst Poor Law Guardians, by a letter which appeared, last week, in our influential contemporary the *Pall Mall Gazette*, from the pen of Mr. Henry C. Burdett, and which, for the information of our readers, we reproduce in another column of our present issue. The following sentences from that letter require the careful consideration of all who are thus held up to general reprobation, because the public at large, reading them, may, perhaps, imagine that Mr. Burdett writes with authority, and may believe that his sweeping assertions are justified by facts. “We are inclined to believe,” he writes under the editorial anonymity, “that the

abuses and horrors connected with the sick wards of some workhouses in this country, controlled by the Guardians of the poor, equal, if they do not even surpass, the worst phases of official cruelty which the world has ever seen. If you would send a commissioner into some of these places with instructions to describe what actually takes place, some facts (*sic*) would probably prove unfit for publication in your columns.” Mr. Burdett’s literary efforts are not characterized by a rigid adherence to the grammatical rules which bind persons of ordinary education, but the meaning of the words which we have quoted can scarcely be misunderstood. On behalf of Poor Law Guardians as a body, we emphatically deny the truth of his wholesale condemnation of the management of our Workhouse Infirmarys; and we will, as space permits, prove, in future issues of this paper, that his assertions, on this subject, are wild exaggerations. The least that Mr. Henry C. Burdett can do, at any rate, is to exhibit the courage of his convictions, and to state explicitly to what Institutions he refers, and give specific details of the cruelties to which he alludes.

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