

or small-pox were to appear in our midst—a supposition not in the least improbable—we should have been consulting where to put them when the patients were requiring burial.” Dr. SHEARAR then blames the local authority for not taking steps a year ago, when the question was before them, to erect a fever hospital which would have been adequate for the growing wants of the town. He states that there are now in the fever hospital 29 cases of scarlet fever where there is room only for 22, and 62 cases of enteric fever where there is accommodation only for 51. Gockston Hospital is similarly overcrowded, with the natural result that both there and in the fever hospital there is a Nurse suffering from enteric fever. These are very serious allegations and Dr. SHEARAR is not one who is likely to have made them without good ground. They demand the immediate attention of the Paisley local authority, particularly as their town has a bad record from a health point of view.

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THE thirty-first report of the Inspector of Reformatory and Industrial Schools in Ireland has now been issued. There were 7 reformatories and 69 industrial schools in active operation at the end of 1892. The decrease in committals to reformatory schools, which has been so remarkable for several years past, still continues. The inspector points out that short terms in a reformatory school hardly ever do any good. They cripple the means of the management for placing the young criminal at a distance from temptation and in a way to earn a respectable livelihood. The success in life achieved by those who have been brought up in reformatories will be found almost without exception to have been obtained by persons originally committed to them for a long period of time. There were 10 deaths in 1892 as against 2 in the previous year. Five of these were due to lung disease, 3 from mesenteric and bowel disease, 1 was a case of fever, and 1 an accidental death. As regards industrial schools, there were on Dec. 31st, 1892, 8,576 children as compared with 8,547 the previous year. At Artane a disinfecting chamber of the most approved construction has been erected, and it is expected that it will be the means of preserving that school from various contagious and infectious diseases which continually threaten to appear in industrial schools wherever such institutions exist. Ophthalmia prevailed in Baltimore School early in May, and the attention of the authorities was called by the inspector to the extreme gravity of the disease and the necessity of taking precautions to prevent it from spreading.

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It also prevailed in the autumn, and in consequence some structural and other improvements will be carried out as soon as possible, the chief difficulty being the cost of the proposed additions. The average cost per head in the industrial schools was £25 1s. 8½d., or £3 6s. 7½d. per head more than the previous year, and of reformatory schools £17 19s. 3d., or an increase of 2s. About 10,000 children were detained in industrial schools during the year, and the deaths amounted to 81, most of them being caused by lung disease.

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THE Ipswich Corporation can compare favourably, says the *East Anglian Times*, with other Sanitary Authorities representing Towns of similar size in its arrangements for dealing with outbreaks of infectious diseases. At a recent meeting it was announced that the Floating Hospital would be ready for launching in a few days, and payment was ordered of the £700 which will then be due to the contractor, which amount the Local Government Board has allowed to be raised on a short loan, to be repayed in ten years. The popularity of Town Councillors for the time being is too all-important to allow of a small sum like this being paid out of current expenditure, if by any means it can be borrowed. As it is the Hospital Ship is provided, and no votes lost next November through a consequent increase of the rates. Everybody therefore is satisfied, and there can be no question that the Floating Hospital will be a most valuable acquisition to the town, should the cholera manage to make its way to England in the autumn, while when all danger of this dread disease is past, it will be easy to use it in the case of other epidemics. For the present a useful and inexpensive addition has been made to the Fever Hospital by the purchase of a second-hand building, which has been erected in the Hospital grounds, and will accommodate at least ten patients. Even if the cost does amount to £100, the building is cheap at the price, and nobody who believes in the English method of isolation as the only efficient means of coping with epidemics can complain of this very necessary expenditure.

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“THE pity of it is that the Corporation cannot manifest a little of this same zeal in dealing with the causes which lead, if not to outbreaks of infectious disease, at least to a general injury to health, which makes quite as ugly an impression upon the death returns. At present the Corporation appears to be willing to consider any proposal rather than that of putting

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