

THE *Coromandel* Hospital ship has left Sierra Leone *en route* for the Gold Coast. All on board were well, having recovered from their bad attacks of sea-sickness occasioned by unusually rough weather.

THE Leicester Board of Guardians has taken admirable action with regard to the "midwife" question. They had appointed Nurse Masters to fill this position, but the Local Government Board suggested that it would be better to appoint Nurse Masters as a midwifery Nurse, to take cases only in conjunction with a doctor. This the Board, after some little discussion, agreed to do, at a salary of £65 per annum.

The Board then proceeded to settle the question of the doctor's attendance in the various districts of Leicester. Hitherto the work has been divided amongst several medical men, and the system has not been found to work satisfactorily. Finally, it was decided to appoint a physician, whose whole time would be devoted to confinement cases. Mr. Cort asked if they would be able to get a medical man to give his whole time as the midwife had done, to which Dr. Broadbent said "it was no secret that they hoped to appoint a lady doctor."

There is no question that this will prove an excellent plan, and will be of the utmost benefit to the poor women of Leicester. There has always been a great difficulty in getting "the parish doctor" in time, because he is naturally so much in demand. But with a physician whose whole time is devoted to obstetric cases, and with a highly qualified midwifery Nurse, it would seem that an admirable scheme has been provided, and it will be interesting to watch the working of it.

UNDOUBTEDLY the stir that has been occasioned by inquirers into the condition of the Irish Infirmarys has had the effect of starting "waves" of reform, and we hope these waves will produce before long a thorough revision of the Nursing systems. At a meeting of the Belfast Board of Guardians:

The Assistant Clerk read a letter from Dr. Bigger recommending to the Board the necessity of changing the diet of the Nurses in the Hospital from third to first-class. Owing to their onerous duties, and the risk of catching infection, Dr. Bigger considered it most desirable that the diet should be ample and varied, which would render the Nurses better able to resist infection.

Messrs. Oswald and Doran thought Dr. Bigger's recommendation should be carried out. The first-named Guardian pointed out that the school teachers received first-class rations.

Mr. Carlyle said the change would involve an additional expenditure of £150 per annum.

Dr. Gibson said it was ridiculous to have Nurses on third-class rations. They brought these respectable girls there to do first-class work, and they ought to feed them properly.

The Chairman: They are well fed.

Dr. Gibson: As a medical man I say they are not fed adequately for the duties they have to perform.

Notice of motion to have the diet of the Nurses changed as recommended was then handed in by Mr. Oswald, and Mr. Carlile at the same time gave notice that he would move on that day fortnight that each Guardian be supplied with the number of Nurses in the House, and that the extra expense which the proposed change would involve be ascertained and made known to the Guardians.

THE Committee of the Torquay Nurses' Institution is again appealing for help to enable the District Nursing to be continued. There was an enthusiastic public meeting held on November 11th, but only £100 towards the debt of £316 has been as yet received. Torquay is so rich a place that it is hardly credible that so small a sum cannot easily be collected.

A FASHIONABLE daily paper recently had the following advertisement:—

"Lady H. holding First Aid and Nursing certificates, would be glad to chaperon a lady for the winter in Egypt, or abroad."

So it would seem in this democratic age that it is not enough to be the proud possessor of a title to establish a claim to a chaperonage. But Lady H. must add to her dignity and eligibility by proclaiming herself as certificated in Ambulance and Nursing!

AN evening paper recently published an article entitled "A Day's Nursing," which again prompts us to suggest that it will soon be necessary, seeing that so many papers deal with Nursing subjects, and that the public are so much interested, to have on newspaper staffs a Nursing critic who will be able to "edit" Nursing copy so that it shall not betray its amateur origin. The article in question was by no means badly written, but that it was the work of a person absolutely ignorant of the rudiments of Nursing, was apparent in every line.

Among other descriptions of tragedies, the Nurse who was confessedly untrained was called to a case of drowning. And here the colossal ignorance of the writer is most strikingly shown. In the scene which follows *the doctor who is called to the case stands and looks on while the mother of the drowned boy performs artificial respiration, the doctor, meanwhile condescending to instruct*

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