

tised offer of a salary of £30, with uniform, &c., has failed to attract candidates—are very reluctant to remain for any length of time in workhouses which, like many of those in East Anglia, are some miles from any town or even villages, where there are very few acute, and, therefore “interesting” cases, and where the main duties are those of feeding and keeping clean a number of old persons slowly dying of senile decay. Some of the necessary duties involved are not far removed, in point of unpleasantness, from that of scavenging. The work of the Nurse proper has to be combined with some of the functions of a domestic servant, and in out-of-the-way places it is with difficulty that good trained Nurses—for whom there is considerable demand in the open market—can be persuaded to devote themselves for long to a workhouse life.”

It is a new idea that the question of uniform for a Nurse should be brought before a Committee by an Inspector of Nuisances! But at the Brentford District Council the important subject of the outdoor uniform of the Hospital Nurse was gravely brought forward by this useful official. The discussion was distinctly amusing, because at the same time the claim of the porter “to a new suit of corduroys” was considered. In the latter case the Medical Officer thought the man deserved new clothes because “in delirious cases he had taken his turn as Nurse.” Both Nurse and porter were duly clad at the expense of the Council.

At the Annual Meeting of the Leicestershire Institution of Trained Nurses a very satisfactory report was presented; but there is still a debt, for which donations are asked. The Committee are anxious not only to pay their liabilities, but also to give more satisfactory remuneration to the Nurses.

THE Leavesden Asylum Committee has been censured by the Local Government Board because they do not appoint *trained* Nurses for their Infirmary, and because of the numbers of bed-sores among the patients. The medical Superintendent is apparently opposed to the employment of trained Nurses, on the ground that they would not have had the “special experience” so desirable in the cases of imbecile patients. It would not take a trained Nurse long to gain all the special experience necessary. It does not seem to have occurred to the medical Superintendent that the present Nurses do not seem to have had the “special experience” which trained Nurses have of the prevention of bed-sores.

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 Recalls the Delicious Tea of Thirty Years Ago.

It was proposed, instead of trained Nurses, to order a fresh supply of water-pillows and spring mattresses. But Mrs. Laurie very properly protested against such an inadequate way of meeting the difficulty. The matter is to be further considered, and it is already decided to appoint one trained Nurse. This is in the right direction, and it certainly appears as if the Committee intend to give their best attention to the question which has been brought to their notice by the Local Government Board.

ASYLUM Nursing is attended by many disagreeables which are not met with in Hospitals. An attendant on the insane writes: “Last week several trifling injuries were sustained by patients from falls in fits or attacking each other, and the Nursing Staff themselves are not free from injuries sustained at the hands of the patients. We may make light of such injuries—a discoloured eye being sometimes called ‘a trade mark’—but all the same they have a depressing effect upon the recipients, many of whom are afterwards no longer able to carry on duties accompanied by such risks.”

“AGRICULTURAL depression” has been for some time a potent argument and an efficient excuse for withdrawing subscriptions to Hospitals and other charities. But, to judge from the following advertisement it would appear as if, at least, one of the “sons of the soil” were being driven by depreciation of the price of wheat and failure of mangold crops, to enter the already overcrowded Nursing profession, and to infringe on medical provinces. We cut from a fashionable daily the following:—

A LADY wishes to RECOMMEND a Farmer who has had experience in Mental Cases, as a very good person to have the CARE of a GENTLEMAN of weak mind.

It is certainly difficult at first sight to see the relation between agriculture and the care of mental disease, and while we have no word to say against the Nurse-farmer, we think he would have to produce further evidence of his capacity before he will be entrusted with the “care of a gentleman of weak mind.”

A CLERGYMAN recently, speaking about the special collections made in churches on Hospital Sunday and at other times in aid of Institutions for the sick, was broad-minded enough to say: “If they could get one of the Nurses or doctors to come up into the pulpits and state to the people what was being actually done, the appeal would be brought home in a way which would be far more effectual than that made second-hand.” It appears to be an admirable suggestion. Quite recently, at

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