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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

No. 424.

SATURDAY, MAY 16th, 1896.

VOL. XVI.

### Editorial.

#### WORKHOUSE INFIRMARIES.

HERE is an aspect of the Workhouse Infirmary question which has not yet received the attention which it merits. The opinion has been decidedly expressed in these columns, on former occasions, that the necessary reforms in these Institutions must be based upon the assimilation of their organisation to that of a General Hospital, because, as has been conclusively proved, the whole Nursing department of a Workhouse Infirmary suffers from the present patchwork system of management. There is a further step which might, and probably would, follow the assimilation to which we have referred—the utilisation of the Infirmary as a Clinical School of Medicine. On the one hand, it is a palpable fact that, at present, whilst at certain Medical Schools the number of available beds—that is to say, the opportunities for clinical instruction and experience—are very restricted in comparison with the number of medical students—to whom such instruction is a matter of necessity—there is, at the same time, an immense amount of the material for observation and instruction in the wards of the Workhouse Infirmaries, in the Fever Hospitals under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and in the Lunatic Asylums, which is quite unused, and therefore, in that sense, is simply wasted. On the other hand, it is a well-known fact that the prestige of certain large Hospitals in London and the provinces is due almost entirely to the fact that they are Medical Schools. If this assertion seems strange to some of our readers, they must remember that these Hospitals do not derive their reputation because they contain so much

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