

Hedley testified to the hard and successful work done by the lady superintendent. The committee expressed their appreciation of, and obligation for, her faithful and devoted service. Dr. Bruce Low, the medical inspector, sent down by the Local Government Board to inquire into the causes of enteric fever in the district, stated in his report: "Of late years the local District Nursing Association have lent a helping hand. The staff of this Association consists of four nurses, and a lady superintendent, who wait upon the cases at their homes several times a day, and who also instruct the extemporised nurses of the family as to how best to help the patient." Out of 289 cases notified, 100 were nursed in their own homes by the Nursing Association. It was stated that the subscription list was a small one, and must be increased if the work was to continue on its present scale. We hope that the funds will be forthcoming to amply support this good work.

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We are glad to learn that the Chester Board of Guardians have appointed a trained nurse in the imbecile wards, as many of the cases in the infirmary are surgical, and require special attention. We feel sure the Guardians are doing wisely in reducing the number of able-bodied paupers, and providing efficient nursing for those who are really sick.

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We had occasion to comment last week upon the conduct of a Nurse Lyon, who, having attended a meeting of the Bedford Board of Guardians, entered into an engagement with them, borrowed a pound for her return journey, and then calmly wrote that she had accepted a better post, and demanded an extra seventeen shillings for journey expenses. This week we learn from the *Western Times* that much the same trick has been played by the same Nurse Lyon (lately working at the Bishop Auckland Union) upon the Tiverton Guardians, and it is much to be regretted that this Board of Guardians have weakly decided to pay Nurse Lyon a month's salary, if necessary, as they had engaged her at the last meeting, and it was now found that she had accepted an appointment at Winchester the day before she was elected nurse to the Tiverton Union. The right course for these Guardians to have adopted would have been to demand a month's wages for breach of contract upon the part of this dishonourable person, and to expose her conduct to her present employers. It would be interesting to learn if Nurse Lyon has really accepted a situation at Winchester, and what her annual income amounts to from breach of contract with guileless Guardians.

The conduct of Nurse Smith at Beaminster is much on all fours with that of Nurse Lyon. This nurse, before the completion of her first month's service, informed the Guardians by letter of her intention of leaving on the 1st of March, "she having had a much better position offered her." The Vice-Chairman very justly complained of the way in which nurses were engaged by the Board, and said it seemed to him that nurses merely came to their Union for the express purpose of looking out for better places. We should strongly advise the Beaminster Guardians to compel Nurse Smith to pay a month's salary in lieu of notice. It is quite evident from the two cases quoted that there must be a decided lack of honourable dealing amongst these country workhouse infirmary nurses. We are glad to observe that the Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association, through whom Nurse Smith was engaged, strongly disapproved of her conduct, and we hope that after such a flagrant breach of contract they will not make themselves responsible for her conduct in the future.

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It is high time that the Guardians of the Wolverhampton Workhouse Infirmary put their house in order, as it is acknowledged that the lavatories and drains are in a most defective condition, and they are no doubt responsible for the outbreak of diphtheria from which so many of the nurses are suffering. There were lately upwards of a dozen nurses and inmates ill with diphtheria and sore throat.

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TAKING into consideration the constant friction between the nurses and Guardians in country workhouses, the following letter addressed by a late nurse to the Louth Board of Guardians is quite a refreshing change:—

"My term of service as nurse of this Union Infirmary having ended, I take the opportunity of thanking the Board for their kindness and forbearance with me during my illness, and also their efforts to get me into the hospital. I shall always have a lively remembrance of the kindness of your treatment here. Nothing but ill-health would have induced me to leave."

It is to be regretted that ill-health has terminated these harmonious relations.

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We hear a great deal of the "new nurse" nowadays. The other day we read a story of an old one, who said "she didn't want any thermometers to tell her if the baby's bath was too hot or too cold. If it was too hot the baby turned red; if it was too cold the baby turned blue! What more simple?"

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