

competent medical man as to the meaning and the management of the symptoms present. She must have studied a proper manual on the subject, and must have applied in the wards, or 'clinically,' the book knowledge so obtained. The general principles of all nursing have to be learned and applied to the special cases of the mentally sick. Time and serious application to this work are needed, as well as opportunity. Some practice in the mental nursing of mild mental cases, and 'borderland' cases, between sanity and insanity, at home, in lodgings, and in travel, is needed to complete the training got in the institution. If the mental nurse receives a training in a general hospital, it adds to her usefulness. A training in general nursing will, no doubt, in the future, be the basis of the highest kind of mental nursing. I, myself, believe that a year's training in a general hospital, and two years' training in a mental hospital, would be the proper scheme to turn out the best mental nurses—the first and third years being spent in the asylum, and the second in the hospital. My friend, Miss Peter, Matron of Craig House, agrees with me in this opinion."

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ON September 15th, a very successful Sale of Work was held in connection with the Clapton Women's Total Abstinence Society at Mrs. Paterson's, River House, Seven Sisters Road, in aid of the London Temperance Hospital, and with the object of placing there some memorial of their late President, Mrs. Lovegrove.

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WE regret to notice that the compulsory order of the Local Government Board, requiring that the superintendent nurses in workhouse infirmaries shall have received three years' training, is telling somewhat heavily upon some of the officials now in office. We are entirely in sympathy with the new order, and in carrying out any reform it is necessary to consider the greatest good of the greatest number; at the same time it is regretable that superintendents of workhouse infirmaries who have, so far as in them lies, done their work well and faithfully, should be deprived of their posts. We hope that Boards of Guardians will do all in their power to obtain for those officials who have served them well, but who are not qualified for the positions which they at present hold, posts for which they are qualified.

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A GENTLEMAN who recently engaged a nurse from the Torquay Nurses' Institution to attend his daughter during her illness, has sent a donation to the Institution as a slight recognition of the invaluable services rendered by the nurse.

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MRS. JARVIS, of Teignmouth, better known as "Nurse Ravenscroft," has been presented by both the rich and poor of Teignmouth, with a set of plate on the occasion of her marriage. Mrs. Jarvis has won for herself many friends in the neighbourhood, owing to the kindly and efficient manner in which she performed her duties while working under the District Nursing Association.

THE Workhouse Visiting Committee of the Guardians of the Christchurch Board were in difficulties the other day upon a question of domestic management, and several of the Guardians refrained from voting, whereupon one of their colleagues protested against their line of action, and said that if a guardian went on a committee and did not vote he ought to try and get some other job. If a member could not vote upon such a question, he could not have brains enough for the job. Another member of the board suggested that the Local Government Board should be memorialized to make "brains" a necessary qualification for a guardian! The opinion was also expressed that guardians ought not to want to go home to Bournemouth to ask their wives whether they were right, or not, in voting; they should vote. We think that the gentlemen who abstained from voting for this reason showed their common sense, but the obvious moral is that all Boards of Guardians should appoint some women to act upon their Board in order that they may take expert advice on domestic matters when they meet, and need not be obliged to refrain from voting upon important subjects because they have no women at hand to advise them.

We cannot commend the suggestion made to the guardians by this committee that they should "engage by the week the services of suitable persons to act as attendants in the infirmary." Even if the persons engaged are eminently suitable, the arrangement must prove unsatisfactory if made on these lines.

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THE Bootle Board of Guardians recently had occasion to advertise for a nurse, and received ten applications for the post. On the recommendation of a sub-committee, it was suggested that the two most likely applicants of the number should be seen by the Board. One of the guardians asked, and finally carried his point, to have the name of a candidate included who had not been trained, on the ground that she was a very good nurse, an exceedingly good nurse, and she would be likely to stay." We receive the former part of this statement at least with some incredulity, and even supposing the nurse to be exceptionally talented, it is obviously impolitic and unwise to select a candidate whose appointment could not be approved by the Local Government Board.

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AN inquest was recently held at the Cork Lunatic Asylum upon the body of an inmate named Cornelius Collins, aged seventy-eight, who died after an illness of twenty-four hours. It was proved at the post-mortem examination that the sternum of the deceased man was fractured, as well as two ribs on one side and three on the other. Medical evidence was given that the injuries could not have been the result of a fall.

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