

medical profession should be represented. We notice, however, that there is no suggestion as to the representation of nursing interests. We hope that the Committee will not be re-organized without consideration of this most important point.

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THE Devonport Guardians last week considered a letter from Nurse Moore, stating that she had reluctantly decided to resign her post, as she could not expect the Board to keep it open for four months. She had been invited to have a sea voyage, which would occupy about four months, and as it had been one of the desires of her life, she had accepted the offer. She was unable to give longer notice, because she only had one week in which to prepare for her departure. She would not put the Board to the expense of advertising for a successor, and if they desired it she would find a substitute from among her professional acquaintances. It was pointed out that the nurse had left without giving the month's notice necessary under the terms of her agreement. One member said he believed the nurse was still in England. Some time since they granted her leave and then found that she had been working during the holiday. Another suggested that "they should employ a detective and try to find Miss Moore." It was ultimately decided that full enquiries should be made.

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WE are of opinion that the Guardians are fully justified in making enquiries. A nurse, even to obtain "the desire of her life," has no right to break a contract without permission. The suggestion as to the employment of a detective seems somewhat extreme. It is to be regretted that a nurse, by her irresponsible conduct, should have evoked it.

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THE Market Bosworth Guardians dealt, at their last meeting, with a similar case. A letter was laid before them from the late nurse, explaining her reasons for suddenly quitting her duties. Her explanations were not, however, accepted, and she forfeits a month's pay.

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THE Gorton District Council has adopted a novel proposal. The medical officer has been empowered, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, to engage nursing assistance in cases where removal to hospital is considered unnecessary. It is not contemplated that trained nurses will be engaged, but that some respectable woman should be called in to the assistance of the mother of any family in which serious cases of sickness occur. By this means the expense

of removal to hospital will be saved to the rate-payers, and the mother or wife of the patient will not have to sit up night and day. One member of the Board in objecting to the proposal, said it would open the door to a lot of quackery, and, moreover, he did not think the Local Government Board would approve of the proposal. We should think not.

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Miss Cook, the Matron of the Victoria Hospital, Folkestone, is resigning her post to be married to Dr. Percy Kent, formerly a house-surgeon in the same institution. The *Folkestone Express* says: "Her departure is a serious loss to the Hospital and to Folkestone in general. She has many friends in every class of society—they know her many virtues, her kindness, and her sympathy." A fund is being raised for a testimonial to Miss Cook, which was set on foot by the medical staff.

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WE hear from a Matron who recently visited the United States, and has availed herself of the opportunity to see some of the American Hospitals, that the point which most impressed her as excelling the arrangements of British Hospitals was the service of the patients' food, as well as the greater variety of it. The better service is accounted for by the fact that it is the special duty of one nurse to attend to the preparation of the trays in the ward kitchen, and that, therefore, more time and attention can be given to their arrangement, the daintiness of the linen, and the other details, than is possible in our own hospitals. We are told that St. Luke's Hospital, New York, of which Mrs. Quinard is the Matron, is a most beautiful building, equipped in a manner to which we have not yet attained. One of the officials of the hospital is a lady usher, whose duty it is to take visitors round the hospital and point out and explain anything likely to interest them. The appointment of such an official would be an excellent arrangement in some of our own large hospitals.

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At a recent meeting of the Auckland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, New Zealand, it was reported by Dr. Pabst and the Medical Superintendent that the nurses' examination had been held, with the result that Probationer Nurses Coates, Giffney, Gill, and Street had passed their final examination, and were recommended for certificates, Probationer Nurses Dalziell, Foote, Giffard, Stratford, and Wilson had passed their second examination, and Probationer Nurses Mason and Williams had passed their first examination.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)