sation with her solicitor she pleaded guilty, and the second charge was abandoned. She was bound over to be of good behaviour.

If such deliberate and heartless conduct is condoned in this manner we may expect a large influx into the ranks of those impostors who make a profitable living by posing as members of an honourable profession, and bring disgrace upon it. Disgrace from which nurses have no means of dissociating themselves, as they are without legal status.

At a meeting of the South Yorkshire Poor Law Officers' Association, held at the Ecclesall Union last week, Mrs. Lipscombe, the late superintendent, and Nurse Griffiths were presented with a silver tea tray and inkstand respectively, from the officials and outdoor officers of the Union. Mrs. Lipscombe was also presented with a silver teapot and cream jug, and Nurse Griffiths with a dressing case from the Hospital Staff. Mr. T. Smith, clerk to the Guardians, made the presentations.

Nurse Pinchbeck, who is resigning the post of district nurse at Darwen for other work, was recently presented with a gold ring set with diamonds and sapphires, and a testimonial handsomely framed. The presentation was made by Mrs. Hamilton, who said that the gifts were evidence of the regard and love in which. Nurse Pinchbeck was held in Darwen. There was not a patient whom she had attended who did not value her ministrations. The nurse expressed her thanks for the gift and the pleasure which it gave her.

Yet another instance of the failure of a nurse to understand the binding nature of an engagement which she has entered into was recently brought up before the Colchester Board of Guardians, when it was reported that Nurse Franks who was appointed as nurse by the Guardians a fortnight ago, had not entered on her duties as arranged, though at the time of her engagement she was unemployed, and it was only after great difficulty that her whereabouts had been ascertained. Another nurse was appointed, and it was agreed not to return Nurse Franks' testimonials until she had forwarded a month's salary in lieu of notice. A wise action on the part of the Guardians.

Dr. Cox, of Dublin, took a liberal and generous view of the relations between the medical and nursing professions, when he said recently, "I regard nurses as our allies and friends, our able assistants and lieutenants, co-ordinate rather than subordinate. I should like them to be our equals in education and social standing, rather than our inferiors. I desire, therefore, that their training should be as complete and perfect as possible.

The higher and more severe the standard, the better for the nurses and for the medical profession." We could wish there were more members of the medical profession who held these views. The difficulties of those who are striving to effect nursing organization, and to raise the standard of nursing education would soon be at an end.

Some little time ago we reported the circumstances under which Miss Baxter left the Women and Children's Hospital, Cork, and the highhanded way in which she was treated by the Ladies' Committee after rendering invaluable services to the institution. We are, therefore, not surprised to learn that her successor, Miss Disney, accompanied by the staff sister and the night nurse recently left the institution quite suddenly. On the previous Monday there was a meeting of the Ladies' Committee, and on Tuesday one of the Board. We learn also that one of Miss Baxter's former nurses was telegraphed for and installed as Superintendent, while a second was telegraphed for to take the post of staff nurse. the whirligig of time brings round its revenge. It is regrettable that when a Matron vacates her position under the circumstances which led to Miss Baxter's resignation, that a colleague should be found to step into her shoes. We should do well to learn a lesson from the medical profession which well understands that, if injustice is meted out to one of its members this affects not only the individual member, but the whole profession.

The Gorey Board of Guardians have recently placed four nuns in charge of the nursing arrangements of their infirmary, and it appears that the Guardians have proposed to provide a covered vehicle for the conveyance of these nuns from the infirmary to the chapel. The Local Government Board have written to say that they do not think this would be a legitimate charge on the rates. We do not grudge the Sisters the use of a vehicle, but we certainly think it should be provided by private beneficence, and not out of the rates.

Our American mail bag is always a most interesting one, and we hail its arrival with genuine pleasure; but may we point out to our kind correspondents in the United States that their letters are specially welcome when they are fully stamped. The sum we spend on excess postage on American letters totals up to quite a large amount in the course of a year.

previous page next page