

service of the Local Government Board, two years of which should be spent in the wards of a small union, we think it necessary to point out that before any organised attempt is made to provide nurses in this way for the smaller infirmaries, steps should be taken to make the accommodation and arrangements in force in these unions, suitable for the nurses sent to them. In many of the small unions this is far from the case at present, and we doubt if even a legal contract would bind probationers to stay in some of them for two years. The woman whose services it is desirable to retain would probably prefer to run away and take the consequences. Further, some assurance of an adequate salary at the end of the five years' probation should, we think, be given to those who satisfactorily pass through this long term of service.

Is Mr. W. J. Crossley, Chairman of the Manchester Hospital for Consumption, right in supposing that consumption is not an interesting subject? We should not have thought so. Yet he asserts that "nurses do not like it"; and there is a difficulty in obtaining their services. For the credit of the nursing profession, we hope this reproach may be removed, but the fact remains that they are ugly rumours that nurses are afraid of nursing small-pox, and that the patients at present in the small-pox hospitals cannot receive the attention they ought to have owing to the scarcity of nurses.

At the last meeting of the Atcham Board of Guardians, the Chairman (the Rev. A. G. Burton), proposed that the Guardians hereby record their opinion that the status of superintendent nurses, as provided by the Order of the Local Government Board of August, 1897, is so anomalous and unsatisfactory as to require immediate attention and revision. The control of the Guardians is by the Order completely taken away. They had not the power to suspend, however, serious an offence may have been committed by a superintendent nurse, though the power was possessed in the case of the medical officer, master, matron, and other officials. The result was that proper administration by the Guardians was almost if not quite impossible.—The Guardians were of opinion that the power to suspend should be given at once; they were also of opinion that the supervision of a Workhouse hospital having no resident medical superintendent, and forming part of the Workhouse proper, should be more clearly defined so as to prevent misunderstanding and friction, and that the order of procedure should be (1) the Guardians; (2) the Master; (3) the Medical Officer; (4) the Matron; (5) the Superintendent Nurse.

We are surprised that Dr. Prosser White's letter on Common Colds, and the relation of nurses who suffer from them to their patients, has evoked no response. Nurses are, however, so busy nursing them or suffering from them that we conclude they have no time to theorise on the subject.

The Irish Local Government Board are sending round a medical inspector to make special reports on the condition of the infirmaries under their control.

The Castlederg Guardians have scant sympathy with an official who has been in their service for nineteen years. At a recent meeting a letter was read from the Local Government Board enclosing a copy of a communication they had received from Mrs. Margaret Connolly, late fever hospital nurse, requesting to be furnished with the observations of the Guardians.

Mrs. Connolly stated that the superannuation (£12) granted to her would not support her in moderate comfort, that she was verging on seventy years, and would have been in the service of the Guardians nineteen years in June. When not engaged in nursing fever patients, she attended maternity cases, and had the general good will of all patients committed to her charge, she prayed the Board to direct the Guardians of Castlederg Union to pay her two-thirds of her salary and emoluments, which would enable her to live in comfort for the few years that remain to her.

The Clerk said the Board had given her the maximum superannuation she was entitled to, and Mr. Deery suggested if she was not satisfied with that she could come into the house, a suggestion endorsed by Chairman, and the Clerk was directed to reply to the Local Government Board that they had recommended Mrs. Connolly for the full amount of superannuation to which she was entitled, and that they refused to entertain the matter further.

At the County Court, Brighton, last week, before his Honour Judge Martineau and a jury, Miss Lloyd Harris, 31, Tarbert Road, Dulwich, sued the Very Rev. J. J. Hannah, Dean of Chichester, and the Executive Committee of the Brighton, Hove, and Preston District Nursing Association, 5, Marlborough Place, for £48 8s., as damages for alleged breach of contract to accept her as a nurse. Alternatively the plaintiff sought to recover the same amount from Miss Alice J. Buckle, the Superintendent of the Association, for alleged misrepresentation of her authority to make the contract. The case was not concluded when the court rose, and was adjourned for a week.

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