

efforts to secure proper nursing for the sick under his care in the Granard Workhouse. In a letter from the Board, read at a meeting of the Granard Guardians, this authority says that the evidence at the recent inquiry "revealed a condition of things regarding the provision made by the guardians for the care of the sick and infirm which may be described as shocking." For this condition of affairs the guardians are, the Board holds, primarily responsible; in spite of continuous caution and advice they neglected to discharge their responsible trust with ordinary care or due consideration. The default of the guardians was such as made them as a Board liable to dissolution, but the admissions of the Chairman and other guardians would appear to show that they were at last alive to the necessity for making improvements that had been shown to be necessary, and the Local Government Board were therefore glad to be able for the present to give the guardians an opportunity of remedying their default.

The Board condemns the action of the guardians in calling on the medical officer to resign because he would not permit the ward-maid to perform nursing duties, after a trained nurse had been engaged, as "a most improper attempt to intimidate an officer in the conscientious discharge of his professional duties." The Board further stated:—"The list of nursing duties that the nuns of the Granard Workhouse gave as being outside their province as nurses in charge of sick-wards had come upon the Local Government Board as a surprise, and the matter, from the general point of view, was one that would require further very careful consideration." It is just as well that the Board should have received this surprise. We hope the result will be that it will insist that nuns who undertake nursing duties should perform them, and not relegate them to unskilled workers. We do not undervalue the good work done by nuns, but if they undertake nursing duties they must do so in their entirety; they cannot pick and choose. The fact that at present they do pick and choose will, we imagine, come as a surprise to no one but the Local Government Board.

A young Berlin doctor who happened to be travelling in the South of Russia at the time hurried to Kischineff on hearing the news of the massacre of the Jews there, and offered his services to the hospital authorities. He thus describes what he saw in the infirmary:—"In one bed lies a young woman hardly eighteen years old, with a year-old baby in her arms. She relates that her child's eyes were burnt out with hot irons, and because she tried to prevent this she was flung down and outraged. Her husband arrived on the scene at this moment, and was about to use his revolver when he

was overpowered and bound with cords. He was then compelled to look on while the ruffians cut off his wife's right breast. In the next bed is an old grey-haired woman whose head was split open with a sabre. She cannot lie down because the flesh was torn from her back with the blows of whips and sticks inflicted as a punishment for trying to save her grandchildren by hiding them in a cellar. The children were murdered before her eyes. In the men's ward an old man, fearfully mutilated, is praying that he may die and so rejoin his wife, sons, and daughters, all of whom he lost during the days of terror. In other beds are a man with his feet sawn off, a youth with his chest split open, and a child whose teeth were all torn out. In short, the scenes are those of indescribable misery."

The nurses of the Philadelphia Hospital Training-School have conveyed to Miss Marion E. Smith, their late Superintendent, and to Miss Lydia A. Whiton, her assistant, their regret at their resignations in the following form:—

"We, the nurses of the Philadelphia Hospital, assembled *en masse*, beg to convey to you, our esteemed and beloved chief nurse, and our no less esteemed and beloved assistant, Miss Lydia A. Whiton, some expression of the deep regret with which we regard your resignation of your respective positions. We rejoice that your sterling qualities have gained you the recognition which you deserve, and we feel sure that the unflinching justice, high sense of honour, and watchful care with which you have conducted this training-school will endear you to those who have been so fortunate as to secure your future services. We congratulate the University of Pennsylvania on the brilliant addition to their staff, while we deplore our own loss, and we wish you, dear Miss Smith and dear Miss Whiton, all success and prosperity. The resolution but inadequately conveys any idea of the sincere sorrow with which the nurses regard the great loss they are about to sustain."

Miss Smith's many friends in this country will be gratified with this public tribute to her worth on the part of American nurses.

"Without good teeth," writes Miss Alice M. Steeves in the *American Journal*, "there cannot be thorough mastication; without thorough mastication there cannot be perfect digestion; without perfect digestion there cannot be nutrition; without nutrition there cannot be health; without health, what is life?"

"Hence the paramount importance of good teeth. And how many parents realise these facts? From the time that the little stranger comes into the world and grows to years of maturity, perhaps no detail of the toilet receives so little attention as that of the mouth.

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