

pleased to hear from you, as I feel I should like to know why it was, as I never remember a day's illness, only that I can now say that at eighteen years old I was quite a child.

Yours obediently,

A visit to the hospital followed this letter, and the writer stated that her earliest recollection was of being intensely jealous, at the age of eighteen, of a small child of four who had learned her A B C.

The interesting announcement is made that the Duke of Rutland is to preside at the annual meeting to be held in connection with the Lincolnshire Nursing Association, at the Central Hall, Lincoln, on Friday, February 8th. The first appearance of his Grace, in an official capacity, in the city since he succeeded to the title could hardly have been in aid of a more deserving object, and it is understood that he will be influentially supported.

"Real Lincolnshire," in habit and speech, is synonymous with sturdy common sense, and we are not, therefore, surprised to learn that thoroughly-trained Queen's Nurses are well appreciated in that county.

A Queen's nurse, it is interesting to know, costs the district which secures her services from £85 to £100 a year. The minimum salary to be paid her is £30 with an allowance of £4 for uniform. A striking instance of the appreciation of the working classes for the nurses has been shown by the men employed upon some large railway works, who determined to secure one for themselves and their families. For two whole years they worked among themselves in their hours off duty to raise the necessary funds, and have lately achieved their desire. Again, in many of the manufacturing and mining centres, the men agree to a small deduction, such as a halfpenny or penny a week from their wages, and in one or two such cases they are able to pay entirely for the nurse.

When the Midwives' Registration Act came into force, compelling all women intending to act in that capacity to receive official sanction before continuing to practice, it was stated by the Chairman of the Lindsey County Council (Mr. W. Embleton Fox, J.P.) that ninety-one midwives were known to be acting in that immense division of Lincolnshire. Up to a comparatively short time before the Act came into force it was a remarkable and gravely serious fact that the number of midwives registered was only seven. That number has now been almost quadrupled, and at the present

time there are twenty-seven so registered, while the Lincolnshire Nursing Association and the County Councils are as quickly as possible training more nurses to receive the midwifery certificate. This part of the work of the Association, if there were no other, should command the attention of the public, in these days when we hear so much of terrible rate of infantile mortality, and when it often happens that it is only through the simple ignorance of the poor and perhaps too affectionate mother, as to what should be done in nursing and feeding, that the little one is lost.

The Salford Board of Guardians, in spite of several deaths by suicide of the inmates, were divided at their recent meeting as to the best means of protecting weak-minded patients—some wished to bar the windows, others to block them (a better supply of thoroughly efficient nurses would be the best remedy in saving life). As the vote was being taken Mrs. Thompson said, "I want bars." "You will get bars," Mr. T. Hammersley exclaimed facetiously "if you go in for Women's Suffrage." Laughter, of course!

We think when women have the vote the neglect of the defenceless sick, jobbery, and robbery by Poor Law Guardians will certainly be "barred."

At the Annual Meeting of the Londonderry District Nursing Society, held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall at Belfast, the Mayor presided in the absence of the Duchess of Abercorn.

Mrs. MacMaster read the annual report, which stated that the year just closed had been one of very heavy work for their district nurses. So heavy did the work become that it was found necessary to engage an extra nurse for some months, and Miss Murphy visited a very large number of cases herself in addition to her duties as superintendent. In 1906 the number of cases was 1,442, as against 1,356 in 1905; 27,365 visits were paid, as against 24,136 in 1905. There surely could be no better proof of the devotion of their nurses to the work, and how acceptable it was, both to the medical men and the patients. Owing to the increase of cases, it would have been impossible to end the year without being deeply in debt had it not been for some unexpected legacies and donations. During the year a number of necessary alterations and improvements were made to the Home. The Committee returned thanks to all who had helped the society during the year.

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