

(j.) To transfer all or any part of the property of the Society to any institution, society, or association having objects altogether or in part similar to the objects of the Society.

(k.) To do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

Notice is hereby further given that any person, company, or corporation objecting to this application may bring such objection before the Board of Trade on or before the 16th day of March next, by a letter addressed to the Assistant-Secretary, Railway Department, Board of Trade, Whitehall, London, S.W.

Dated this 17th day of February, 1894.

HONNOR MORTON, Secretary.

* * *

THE following is an abstract of the report of the Infirmary Committee of the St. Marylebone Board of Guardians, respecting the inquiry held by them into the circumstances attending the death of William Haslett, aged 66, on whose body an inquest was held on January 6th. This is referred to in another column:—

“The Committee resumed their inquiry as to the circumstances attending the death of William Haslett, on Thursday, the 11th inst., on which occasion the Medical Superintendent was examined by the Committee, at considerable length, and the inquiry postponed consequent upon the absence of Head Nurse Uridge. The Clerk now submitted a letter from the Local Government Board, of the 12th inst. (referred to the Committee by the Board on the 18th inst.) to be furnished with a report from the Medical Superintendent as to the case. . . . At the next meeting, after a further investigation of the circumstances of the case, it was decided to send the following minute to the Medical Superintendent, the Matron, Head Nurse Uridge, and the Dispenser, viz.: ‘The Committee having further carefully considered all the circumstances in connection with the sad death of William Haslett, who died in consequence of an overdose of 1½ ounces of Bromidia given to him in mistake for a dose of 1½ drachms, are of opinion that the entry prescribing the bromidia on the bed-card was not clearly written, and that the Nurse was, in consequence, in doubt what quantity ought to be given, and they think that greater care should be taken in future to write clearly the entries on the bed-cards. That as the directions on the bottle containing the bromidia were contrary to the usual practice at the Infirmary, written in symbol and not in English, the Committee order that all directions on medicine bottles be written in future in plain English. The Committee are further of opinion that the Nurse was not aware of the nature of bromidia, nor of the probable effects of a dose of 1½ ounces thereof, as it is not a usual or “stock,” medicine, but that, when in doubt as to the amount of dose, she should have consulted one of the Medical Officers, and they direct that Nurses in future do so in all cases of doubt. And finally, the Committee direct that all night doses be for the future made up by water, or otherwise a uniform quantity of water.’”

* * *

THE following letters have appeared in the *Army and Navy Gazette*, and throw light upon an important branch of Nursing work:—

“Sir,—*Abropos* of your article on the above subject in your last issue and your correspondent’s letter. Having spent nine months in a short service of two years in military Hospitals both in India and England, perhaps my experience of the treatment I received and witnessed at the hands of the ‘Nurses’ of both native corps and that whose headquarters flourish at Aldershot might prove interesting. Having con-

tracted rheumatic fever on board one of Her Majesty’s troopers *en route* to India, I reached Bombay, after combating the acute stages of the disease, in a semi-convalescent state. I subsequently suffered a relapse, and remained under the care of an apothecary of the Army Hospital Native Corps until I reached Umballa, when I was sent to the Station Hospital. My acquaintance with members of the Army Hospital Corps quickly commenced. For three months I lay swathed in cotton wool and flannel bandages and almost helpless, tended solely by these natives, part of the time with a leg in splints, as it showed signs of contraction, and throughout, notwithstanding the fact that I could not speak to them in their native tongue, they managed to understand my wants and attend to them. Your correspondent ‘Wretched Nursing’ is rather hard on this corps. I had many opportunities of seeing them on parade, and very smart they looked in their blue uniform with red piping, comparing very favourably with some of their combatant brethren in native infantry corps. The apothecaries, too, are skilled compounders, and a great number of them qualify themselves as medical men. I have frequently seen a severe case of sunstroke or other urgent illness tended by these men with marked success when the doctor has not been handy. As to the introduction of improper food or drink into Hospitals abroad, I should like to know the Hospital *at home* that does not suffer from the same evil. With regard to the Hospitals in the United Kingdom, I was for three months a patient at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, and look back with feelings of gratitude to the deeds of kindness and gentle Nursing of the Red Cross Sisters. These good ladies are too scarce in the Army. If we had more of them and fewer of the so-called ‘Men Nurses’ of the Medical Staff Corps the sick would benefit greatly. Granted that the Medical Staff Corps are invaluable in the field, doing bearer work, bandaging, and the like; in the Hospital they leave most of their work to the convalescent patients, and are seldom seen in the wards except, perhaps, when the doctor is going round, or at some such time when it would be awkward for them to be away. As a ‘Nurse,’ the native coolie they recruit into the Army Hospital Corps compares favourably, I regret to say, with his European brother, who, to begin with, is not nearly as soft-footed or tender-hearted, and does not know as much about poulticing, &c. In conclusion, I would humbly suggest that the Nursing Sisters be augmented, and the men of the Medical Staff Corps better instructed in the detail of ward work and the gentle handling of their charges. For the doctors of the Army I can speak in no terms but those of gratitude, for I came under the treatment of several and found them equally kind, skilful, and painstaking.

ERNEST E. GALLAGHER, Corporal
Aldershot, Feb. 19, 1894. (late 9th Lancers).”

“Sir,—Five years ago I was doing duty in the Punjab at a Station Hospital, having about a hundred beds. The season was a particularly hot and unhealthy one, and the accommodation of the Hospital was taxed to its utmost to provide for the cases of enteric and simple continued fever cases. Of the soldier orderlies doing duty at the Hospital there were, I remember, half a dozen whose services were invaluable. These men, among others, had been trained by us in Nursing duties; and through the zealous co-operation of their commanding officer, they were attached to the Hospital for fully three consecutive months. We found quarters for them in a disused hospital guard-house, where they messed together. I cannot speak too highly of the intelligent interest and the devotion these men displayed in the performance of their very arduous duties. They were certainly the means of relieving the medical officer of much anxiety, and, I doubt not, were the salvation of many of their sick comrades. What these men did others might do, but I regret to say that the efficiency here recorded is of very infrequent occurrence. Your correspondent ‘Wretched Nursing’ is very true in his graphic description of the rotten system of Nursing that

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)