

MISS HELEN GIBBS, Queen's Nurse, Addlestone, has been appointed Superintendent of the Portsmouth Branch of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute.

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THE following are some of the results which have followed the *British Medical Journal's* reports on Nursing in Workhouse Infirmaries. The clerk of the Chester Board of Guardians has been instructed to summon two candidates for the newly created post of second Night Nurse.

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THE Hatfield Board has had under consideration plans for the new women's block in the Infirmary. These will be submitted to the Local Government Board, and, on approval, the building will, it is hoped, follow without delay.

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PUBLIC opinion is working improvements in Haverfordwest. Plank beds and chaff sacks will be superseded by spring mattresses in the Infirmary there.

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THE Stockport Board of Guardians is about to increase its staff. It has advertised in the *Manchester Courier* that two female Nurses are required for the Hospital, and one female Nurse for the imbecile wards.

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WHEN the blind lead the blind, both fall into the ditch. The results are far worse when such madness is perpetrated as to put an imbecile, a "dangerous" imbecile, in charge of imbeciles. News comes from Bradford, that PATRICK SCANLAN, who was in charge over imbeciles like himself, kicked to death one of the inmates, JAMES COOPER, who endeavoured to protect a deaf and dumb mute, whom SCANLAN was belabouring. The murderer was remanded by the magistrates. So much for an inefficient nursing staff.

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DR. ROBERT BARNES has resigned the post of Consulting Physician, and Sir SPENCER WELLS and Mr. JONATHAN HUTCHINSON that of Consulting Surgeon, to the Chelsea Hospital for Women.

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SIR HENRY CALCRAFT (late Secretary to the Board of Trade) has accepted a seat on the Board of Management of the Chelsea Hospital for Women in the Fulham Road.

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THE circular of the Clinical Research Association, the formation of which we recently noticed in this column, has now been issued. From it we learn, that it has been formed with the object of assisting medical practitioners in the investigation of the treatment of disease, by providing them with trustworthy reports upon excretions and morbid products, for the due examination of which, neither time nor

opportunity can be readily found in the hurry and stress of private practice. To this end, a laboratory has been fitted up, in which the necessary investigations will be carried out. The medical man who desires to avail himself of the help of the Association, subscribes five shillings, for which he obtains a box of bottles, to contain the matter he desires investigating, and the charges for the examinations are very moderate.

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ON Saturday last, Professor VON HELMHOLTZ, the great German scientist, passed away at the age of seventy-three. He was quite unconscious, not having recovered from an attack of apoplexy. His mother was an Englishwoman, CAROLINE PENN. As an army surgeon, he prosecuted many of his early scientific studies. He was appointed in succession Assistant in the Anatomical Museum of Berlin, Professor of Physiology at Königsberg. In 1856, he was made Professor of Anatomy and Physiology at Bonn; in 1859, he became Professor at Heidelberg; and in 1871, he was made Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Berlin. So wide were his studies, so fertile his researches, that he may be regarded as a very Admirable Crichton of Science. He has left behind him a stupendous record of work. His loss is irreparable, not only to Germany, but to the whole world.

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THE *Westminster Gazette* has been making a novel investigation. In view of the demands made upon landed proprietors by the State in the shape of the Death Duties sanctioned this year by Parliament, it has been urged that the nobility will be unable to subscribe to charitable objects. Our contemporary quotes figures proving that in the case of the Church Missionary Society, which obtains support from all sections of the community and derives an income of about £200,000 a year from voluntary contributions, its subscribers include 2 Dukes, 1 Duchess, 15 Earls, 14 Countesses, 6 Marquises, 2 Marchionesses, 4 Viscounts, 20 Lords and 133 Ladies, and that the total aggregate of their gifts amounted to only £658, during the year selected for inquiry. Our contemporary then investigated the amount of pecuniary support given to Hospitals by the same classes, and for that purpose took three representative Institutions. In the year 1893, it states that one Duke and three Ladies comprised the nobility who subscribed to the West London Hospital; their total benefactions amounting to £15; that 31 noblemen and noble ladies subscribed £371 to the Middlesex Hospital; and that only 19 titled individuals subscribed £273 to the London Hospital. It is consequently possible that the Death Duties may not affect very materially the income derived by Hospitals from the classes in question.

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