

than nine persons, but felt neither repentance nor shame. In prison her most ardent wish was to fall dangerously ill in order to satiate herself in the looking-glass with the contortion of her own features."

The doctors "to whom she had recommended herself as Nurse" appear to have been singularly unsuspecting gentlemen, both as regards their non-detection of the wholesale poisoning of their patients, and as regards the "recommendation" by herself, which appears to have fully satisfied them as to her capacity in a Nursing direction.

In a remote island, Mingalay, one of the group of the Western Isles of the Highlands, there is an evident necessity that the inhabitants should know something on the subject of typhoid fever. A girl carried the disease to Mingalay from a neighbouring island where there had been an outbreak of typhoid, and the result is shown in a report of Dr. Ogilvy Grant, the medical officer for Inverness-shire. He says:

"The people here got alarmed, and those houses nearest the infected family were deserted. The house was kept well isolated. In due time all the other members of the family, six in number, were infected. The father kept up as long as he could, but he should have been in his bed a week before. He could be seen walking out like a drunken man. I saw him fall down in the sand. He took to bed, and died two days after. Alas, there was not a person in the island who would put him into the coffin!"

But the priest, the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, came to the rescue. Unaided by the unkindly islanders he put the body in the coffin and dragged it out of the house. The wife died two days later, and again, none of the neighbours would put her in her coffin.

In these remote islands the utmost ignorance of health and Nursing prevails, and the people are too poor to be able to obtain medical assistance, and, not infrequently, bad weather so cuts them off from the mainland that a doctor's help cannot be obtained however urgent the case. There is no question that grants should be made by Government to ensure medical help to these benighted and far-off islanders.

A YOUNG woman, whose name is not given, but who "said she was a trained Nurse," applied to Mr. Lane, quite recently, at the North London police-court, for advice. She told a most extraordinary and discreditable tale to the effect that her husband had given his written consent to her misconduct with a "gentleman" and promised never to tell anybody, but he had now repented of his consent and was telling all the doctors and others by whom she was em-

ployed, and consequently she was losing her means of livelihood.

The magistrate examined several papers which the woman handed up to him and said, "If the extraordinary state of affairs as narrated in these documents is correct, I don't wonder that people don't care to have you in their houses." The applicant then asked if she could have a separation or divorce from her husband, and Mr. Lane explained that the disreputable nature of the agreement between her husband and herself would prevent any redress for either of them. At this juncture the horror was increased by the husband being seized with an epileptic fit, at which the wife showed no kind of concern.

Scandals are now of frequent occurrence in the police-court, caused by women who, by some means, get employment in Nursing the sick. It is true that this imposition should be rendered impossible by the determination of medical men to employ only Nurses who are registered, and to acquaint the public through the press of the dangers they incur by employing women without a definite guarantee of knowledge and good character. We hope in the near future to see a society started by the public in self-protection to urge Parliament to pass a bill for the legal registration of trained Nurses.

MARY ANN CONGDON, whose case appears below, is a reversion to the original type of Gamp Nurse. Her name does not appear on the Register, although she is described as a "professional Nurse." No doubt, after she has served her three months she will "come out" with a blithe heart, assume a Hospital bonnet and cloak, and deceive that public which is too apt to consider that the wearing of a uniform constitutes "a professional Nurse."

SCARBOROUGH.

At Scarborough, May 27th, Mary Ann Congdon, aged 34, a professional Nurse, was sent to prison for three months with hard labour for committing an assault upon Mrs. Laughton, the wife of an Indian Civil Service Official, whom she was nursing. The evidence for the prosecution showed that when the worse for liquor the Nurse hit the patient and struck her head on the floor. Congdon pleaded that she did so in self-defence.

MISS DOWIE—the talented authoress of "The Girl in the Carpathians"—in her new book "Gallia" has a clever little skit on the "fad" of the day for "treatment" of one kind or another. One of her characters says:

"I do think life—I mean domestic life—is

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