

their Own Homes, which was held in the Town Hall, Ryde. Her Royal Highness is President of this Association.

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THE President of the Local Government Board has just issued to the Boards of Guardians throughout the country an important circular, on the subject of Workhouse Administration. The circular deals with many points affecting the welfare of the inmates of workhouses, particularly the infirm and the aged, and special reference is made to the subject of Nursing and the care of the sick. In order that the varying circumstances of different localities might not be lost sight of, Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE, before issuing the circular, has been in consultation with the Poor Law Inspectors. We hope to notice the circular more fully next week.

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THE following Lectures will take place at the Sanitary Institute during the week :—

Friday, 1st.—Physics and Chemistry. (Lecture I.)—Mechanical Physics. JOHN CASTELL EVANS, F.I.C., Lecturer on Inorganic Chemistry and Chemical Physics at the City and Guilds of London Technical College, Finsbury.

Tuesday, 5th.—Physics and Chemistry. (Lecture II.)—Natural Forces, ditto.

Friday, 8th.—Physics and Chemistry. (Lecture III.)—The Atmosphere: Its Physical Properties, ditto.

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THE Ryde County Hospital, in the absence of any ambulance arrangements, has adopted an excellent substitute in the form of a convenient covered spring van in which sufferers from accidents or patients who are too ill to travel in the ordinary way may be conveyed. There is no charge made for the use of the van itself, but the patients or their friends are expected to contribute towards the expense of the horse and driver.

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DR. MONTGOMERY WARD, in presenting his last monthly report as superintendent medical officer of health to the Rathmines Commissioners, Dublin, has expressed his conviction that one potent factor in the spread of small-pox and other infectious diseases is the action of Nursing Sisters from the various Nursing Institutions. He complains of their indiscriminate mixing with the healthy in the course of their attendance on patients suffering from disease of an infectious nature, as by travelling in public conveyances, frequenting public thoroughfares, places of worship and of amusement, and the like. He strongly recommends that the management of these Institutions be asked to frame rules against this sort of thing, while also enacting adequate disinfection of the clothing of the Nurses under the supervision of the sanitary authority.

THE Aberdeen Hospital has just introduced a new ambulance for the conveyance of patients to the epidemic Hospital. It is of a beautiful pattern, and one which no doubt will be generally adopted. The ambulance system of Edinburgh is good, but, so far, no town in Great Britain can compete in efficiency with the New York ambulance system. There are just a few things they do better in America, and the Fire and Ambulance Brigades are about the best. In New York, not only is a thoroughly qualified medical man invariably in attendance on the ambulance waggon, but a trained Nurse is frequently taken, when the telephonic message summoning the ambulance discloses at the same time that the nature of the case is one which calls for very skilled and technical care.

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SISTER AGNES, the Superioress of a Nursing Institution at Brest, has received the Order of the Legion of Honour. This makes the twenty-ninth nun that has received the honour. The first was Madame Biget, known as Sister Martha, who was decorated by Napoleon in 1815. Apart from Sisters, nineteen women in all have received the decoration, the two last being Madame Koechlin-Schwartz and Madame Poucher de Careil.

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SIR BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON, M.D., lately delivered, the Annual Presidential Address to the members of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association. He remarked that no good sanitation could be carried out without good inspectors. The Medical Officers of Health, during the last forty years, have collected information which, undoubtedly, will be most valuable when the national history of the 19th century comes to be written. At present, there were two methods of stamping out an epidemic, one to prevent the causes; the other, the modifying of the human frame to defy the cause. The first he would call concolation. The second was known as inoculation.

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SCRIBNER'S Magazine for this month has a striking article on "Salvation Army Work in the Slums," written by Miss MARY BALLINGTON BOOTH. It appears that the Slum Brigade was first started in London, being composed of women drawn from the ranks of the Army. They lived exactly like the poor wretches in the surrounding rookeries, without uniform or other distinguishing feature. The work has gradually extended, not only to the lowest parts of London, but also to the larger English and Scotch towns, and also to those in the United States. Her description of the experiences which led to the formation of the first Nursery or *Crèche* in New York is frightful indeed—tiny mites locked up all day in a room, cold and filthy, while

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