

of statements, but conspicuously avoids any attempt to prove one of its assertions. We challenge it to show that we have "either climbed down or run away," for we are convinced that we have taken neither course. If our contemporary does not understand Nursing questions it is a matter of public loss. If it does not prove its assertions or withdraw them, it will be a matter of much journalistic regret.

The truth is, that Miss Evans, the Matron of St. Olave's Infirmity, has right and justice on her side, and in spite of a partisan local press, we shall be careful that her side has a fair hearing.

WE are glad to hear that a meeting protesting against the action of the Coventry Board of Guardians, in regard to the night nursing question at the Workhouse, was held in the Market Square on Sunday evening; the meeting was called together by hand bills headed with the words, "Mind your Own Business," the insolent reply sent by the Guardians to the Social Democratic Federation, upon receiving the resolution from that body disapproving of their "inhuman vote"—denying to the poor inmates the services of a Night Nurse. The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Quance (Midland Federation of Trades' Councils), and seconded by Mr. Peacock:—

"That this meeting of Coventry citizens is of opinion that a properly certificated Nurse should be appointed to take charge of the Union Infirmity at night, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Board."

"Mr. S. G. Poole commented upon the promptitude with which the Guardians decided to enlarge the Board room for their own comfort, as compared with the way in which they put off the provision of a Night Nurse for the comfort of the inmates. When it came to spending £100 on a Night Nurse they said it would be a burden on the ratepayers—they got behind the back of the ratepayers, and made it appear that they were too mean to provide for taking care of the sick and infirm. That he regarded as a libel on his fellow ratepayers. He did not believe the majority of the Board had five per cent. of the ratepayers behind them on the question. He mentioned that his grandfather had died in the infirmity, and had lain dead for several hours before anyone knew anything about it. Upon making enquiries he was given various accounts by different persons. As a matter of fact, he asserted there was not a properly certificated Nurse at the Workhouse at all. Questions and opposition speakers were invited, but none being forthcoming, the resolution was put, and carried unanimously."

WE are so often called upon to comment on the meetings of Boards of Guardians where questions

of breach of the ethics of good Nursing come up, and we have so frequently to criticise, in a somewhat hostile spirit, the fondness for "Gampism" which so commonly inspires such Boards, that it is quite a relief to the editorial spirit to come across such a delightfully ingenuous discussion as that which recently engaged the attention of the Lynn Board of Guardians.

It is so refreshing to think of a Board of worthy local gentlemen indulging in the luxury of discussing, for one whole half-hour, the subject of women's dress, and criticising freely some manners and customs pertaining to that all-important question! It would appear that two of the Nurses in the Lynn Infirmity petitioned the Board to the effect that "understanding it is customary for officers in our position to wear distinctive dress, and believing we shall fulfil your wishes in adopting a special uniform, we beg that you will be pleased to grant us the same for indoor wear, or make us an allowance where-with to provide it."

The Chairman "did not advocate uniform in any sentimental spirit." He thought "a patient could always imagine being lifted more easily by a Nurse who was dressed in uniform, and looked like a Nurse." The Chairman has evidently little acquaintance with the possible extravagances of clothes, as he imagined "the uniforms would only cost about £1 or £1 5s." He said: "It is only a matter of a dress and cap." We fear he will receive some enlightenment on this subject, and will discover that uniform is a matter of many aprons, a multitude of collars and cuffs, and a goodly stock of caps, not to mention three cotton gowns. The Chairman's own particular taste in Nurses' dress is "black, with the usual cap;" but this selection was not shared by all his brother Guardians.

In fact, Mr. Green thought there was too much uniform in the Institution already, and was horrified by the Chairman suggesting black. Whereupon that gentlemen courteously withdrew his own choice, and magnanimously said: "Mr. Green may choose blue if he likes," on which Mr. Green declaimed the responsibility, but felt sure "black was not the usual colour."

Mr. Rose said the appearance of the Nurses in uniform would give a greater impression of order and seamliness, and would have a distinct influence on the patients—a sentiment in which we heartily concur. Other Guardians sup-

CARLSBAD—the renowned Spa in Bohemia—has been thronged this summer with patients suffering from all kinds of liver and gouty complaints, who have reaped great benefit from taking the celebrated waters; but it is not sufficiently known that persons unable to visit the Spa can obtain the natural Carlsbad Sprudel Salts or Waters at all Chemists, Stores, &c. To distinguish the natural salts from artificial imitations, note the names on wrapper of "LOEBL SCHOTLAENDER, CARLSBAD," and INGRAM & ROYLE, Ltd., Sole Agents, 52, Farringdon Street, E.C. Pamphlet on application.

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