

The Dalrymple Home for Inebriates, Rickmansworth, issues again a report of excellent work accomplished in the year for the benefit of those in whom alcoholism is really a disease. It is interesting to note that out of the 407 cases discharged from the Home since its opening, 92 are described as "gentlemen of no occupation." Of the professions, the highest number reached belong to that of medicine. In business, merchants appear to be the most addicted to inebriety, while dentists, tailors, and publishers are apparently most sober individuals.

It is understood that the Baroness Hirsch will keep up the charitable Institutions created by and dependent on her late husband's generosity.

In his annual report Dr. Waldo, Medical Officer of Health for the vestry of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, declares that one person in fourteen of the population of the parish is born, grows up, drinks, eats, sleeps, works, and often dies, within the four walls of a one-roomed tenement.

Dr. Salmon, of Penlyne Court, Cowbridge, died on Sunday at the age of 106. He was the oldest member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and also the oldest Freemason in the world.

Mr. William Wheatley, superintendent of the St. Giles' Christian Mission, 4, Ampton Street, Regent Square, W.C., appeals for assistance to extend the benefits of the mission's seaside convalescent and holiday home among sickly children and broken-down men and women.

An appeal was recently received by Miss Barton for the despatch of doctors and medicines to Arabkir in Anatolia, where typhus and dysentery are raging. The people are in great poverty, and the fatal cases are numerous.

The expedition sent by Miss Barton to Asia Minor has been very successful. All along their way they distributed not only the necessities of life, such as food and clothing, but farming tools and seeds, which are essential to keep the people from starvation.

The physician of the late Shah of Persia is looking forward to a long rest. Dr. Tholozan, a Creole from Mauritius, had served for a quarter of a century in the French army, when he was sent in 1865 on a mission to Teheran. The Shah at once took a fancy to him, retained him as his private physician, and could never be persuaded to let him go.

Mr. W. Greenwood Sutcliffe, F.R.C.S., and Mr. Redpath, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., have been sent by the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War to Bulawayo, to assist in the care and treatment of the wounded; they have taken with them a large supply of medical stores.

The Stock Exchange at Bulawayo has been converted into a Hospital, so as to be in readiness when active warfare begins.

Cholera has again broken out at Alexandria, where on one day this week there were twenty-three cases and sixteen deaths. A few cases are also reported from Cairo.

"Our Pioneers."

AGNES E. JONES.

THE PIONEER OF REFORMS IN WORKHOUSE NURSING.

AGNES E. JONES, the Nursing Una or "Una among the Lions"—and let us confess at once that we owe to Miss Florence Nightingale this poetic simile—was undoubtedly the pioneer of reforms in Workhouse Nursing. As the Spenserian Una passed unscathed by the side of the lion, so this Una, Agnes—a very appropriate Christian name—passed unscathed and unspoilt by cynicism or hardness, through the wards of that almost intolerable Liverpool Workhouse, among paupers "more untamable than lions."

She was the daughter of Irish parents, born in November, 1832, the year of the great Reform Bill. When she was only five years old, the 12th Regiment, of which her father was Lieut.-Colonel, was ordered to Mauritius, where the next six years of her life were spent, amid all the glories of the tropics. They returned to England in 1843, and, whatever may be one's opinion of phrenology, it is interesting that when she was examined by a phrenologist, he said "Take care, my little lady, this strong will of yours may lead you into great faults." Questioned anxiously by the mother, he added, "Do not be uneasy; religion and love to her parents will be the ruling principles of her life."

Her uneventful girlhood was passed in her father's lovely home on the banks of Lough Swilly, in Ireland, and later in a school at Stratford-on-Avon, where she studied hard till she was summoned suddenly home to the death-bed of her father, but too late. This episode made a deep impression upon the girl, for, from this time, her character developed with great rapidity. In many ways she was not unlike her father—a simple, noble character, and a devoted soldier, recalling, in many of his traits, General Gordon.

Three years later, when travelling on the Continent, she visited Kaiserswerth, the cradle of most of the best Nurses that we had among us here and on the Continent in the fifties and sixties. Here it was that she was first inspired with the idea of becoming a Nurse and devoting her life to the sick and suffering.

Needless to say, this ambition was strengthened when, a few months later, the Crimean War broke out, and she, like every other British woman, was in a fever of excitement at the news which came through the *Times* correspondent that the Hospitals were over-crowded and the soldiers unnursed. Thenceforth Florence Nightingale became her example.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)