

THE Liverpool Jubilee Commemoration Fund now stands at £23,466, while £30,000 is the sum needed to build a Nurses' Institution, the form which the memorial is intended to assume. The amount at the credit of a similar fund in Birkenhead is £4317, the sum required in this instance being £5000, which is proposed to be devoted to the addition of a ward to the Borough Hospital. It is hardly creditable to the people of Liverpool and Birkenhead that the funds have been allowed to remain so long open, especially when the object of each is so laudable.

It is proposed to found a Nursing Association for Cornwall, and donations have already been promised amounting to £1159 and £53 in annual subscriptions. The nurses will be placed under the superintendence of a County Superintendent, the Queen's Institute having promised £50 towards her expenses. We are sorry to observe, however, that it is proposed to give Cornish women six months' maternity training, and then establish them as village nurses. The superficial smattering which is to be obtained, by presumably uneducated women, during a course of six months' maternity work, will not, in our opinion, qualify them to act subsequently as village nurses.

WE are glad to observe that in spite of the desire, on the part of some of the Bridgwater Guardians, to appoint an uncertificated nurse as head nurse to the Infirmary in connection with the Workhouse, it was determined to advertise again for a certificated nurse. The present assistant nurse appears to have performed her work admirably, so far as her experience enables her to do so, but limited experience does not qualify a nurse to take sole charge of the patients in an infirmary where there is no resident medical officer. Further, midwifery cases are admitted to the infirmary, and the nurse should, therefore, certainly hold the certificate of the London Obstetrical Society. The medical officer apparently cannot arrive at the Infirmary, even after a summons reaches him, in less than half an hour, and all who are acquainted with the sudden emergencies which arise in midwifery work, will understand that this delay of skilled assistance might mean death to a patient. We congratulate the Guardians, therefore, upon the wisdom of the course which they adopted after some discussion.

It is amusing to notice in a report of a meeting of the Brighton Board of Guardians that Mrs. Haycraft remarked that many nurses left get married, and she very much regretted this. As this lady has entered the marriage estate herself we assume that she has no objection to matrimony as a vocation for some women. We should like to remind

Mrs. Haycraft, therefore, that nurses do not take a vow of celibacy when they enter upon a three years' agreement with a hospital, and that "human nature will be human nature." Provided, then, that they honourably serve the institution with which they are connected for their period of training, we are unable to perceive what valid objection can be raised to their marrying at the end of this time.

AN inquest was recently held at the County Asylum, Wotton, Gloucestershire, into the circumstances attending the death of Mary Beddis, a pauper lunatic, who died in that institution on the 7th inst. According to the evidence of John Beddis, the husband, his wife, who was in very failing health, was, upon the advice of Dr. Carleton, taken to the workhouse on August 23rd. She had no bruises nor a black eye when taken from home. He visited her on August 28th, in the sick ward of the workhouse. She had two black eyes and both arms were bruised. The nurse said that she came by them either by falling out of bed, or by falling down when out of bed. We may remark that it is extraordinary that if either of these events occurred that the nurse was not cognizant of them. The husband also said that his wife required no constraint to keep her in bed at home.

IN the course of the evidence given by Mrs. Evans, the Matron of the Workhouse, it was elicited that there was only one nurse in the workhouse for both day and night duty, and that she made arrangements with the nurse to stay on duty until 4 o'clock, when *the servant was to relieve her*. After this, we venture to draw the attention of the Local Government Board to the advisability of issuing an order, prohibiting servants, as well as paupers, from acting as nurses in the sick wards of the infirmaries under their control. We leave our readers to make their own inferences as to the efficiency of the night nursing as undertaken until 4 o'clock in the morning by a nurse who had been on duty all day, after this hour, until the nurse again came on duty, by the servant. The nurse, Emma Read, deposed that when the deceased was admitted she was at once put to bed. She remained quiet for an hour, after which she gave her a blow on the chest, saying "Get out of my way." Witness did not use any violence to her. In her opinion the deceased's black eyes were caused before she was put under her charge. She did not know how she came by the bruises; she did not get them in the workhouse. One of the inmates helped her to watch the deceased the first night from twelve o'clock to three o'clock. Dr. Fisher, workhouse medical officer at Westbury, and Dr. F. Hurst Craddock, superintendent of the Gloucester County Lunatic Asylum, also gave evidence.

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