

Government Board circular, on "Nursing in Work-houses." This suggested that there should be one nurse to every ten or fifteen patients, whereas they had only one nurse to about twenty or twenty-four patients. There were forty-one helpless patients in the infirmary, and of these twenty required attendance four, five, and six times each day and night. The proportion of the ninety-seven patients that each nurse had to look after was almost criminal. She knew most of the Guardians were kind-hearted and would not like to increase the sufferings of the sick, but they could not help doing so unless the number of nurses was increased. She supported the amendment in the cause of humanity and economy. Mr. Heath considered one extra nurse, making seven in all, would be sufficient. Miss Manlove declared that Mr. Heath was the greatest sinner in criticising what the Board had done. Mr. Heath: You don't know what you are talking about. (Laughter.) Dr. Ley said they wanted finality in this question. It seemed only the other day that he was fighting for a second nurse; now they had six. Where were the extra nurses to work? They already had one for each ward, as well as a night nurse. If they were going to entirely abolish pauper nursing, four extra nurses were necessary. ("No.") Mr. C. Knibbs said he would reply to Dr. Leys question at the close of the discussion. Mr. BurrIDGE protested against this. They had a right to the information before voting. They did not know what they were talking about any more than the man in the moon. (Laughter.) He felt the committee would be wise to be satisfied with one nurse. Seeing what improvements had been made, it was a pity to outrage public opinion by going to unnecessary expense. Mr. C. Knibbs then replied that the new nurse would be at the disposal of the doctor, who would place her where she was wanted. The amendment for the appointment of two nurses, was defeated. Dr. Ley then moved as a further amendment that the extra nurse receive £25, increasing by £1 a year to £28, and be provided with uniform in lieu of beer money. Mr. BurrIDGE objected to the provision of uniform. The ratepayers had been very patient in bearing the burdens placed upon them, and it would be a shame to increase it by troubling about what women wore. Let them wear what they pleased. Dr. Ley: Rubbish. Mr. BurrIDGE: The Doctor is about the most polite man we have on the Board. (Laughter.) If the money for uniform could be spared let them buy a few extra wraps and petticoats for the poor people in the Workhouse during the winter. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Oliver seconded. Mr. BurrIDGE's amendment was carried by 17 votes to 14. Mr. W. Vicary then proposed that no salary be advertised, but that they advertise for a nurse with a maternity certificate. Rev. H. W. Thornton seconded, and this was carried *nem. con.*

MR. J. J. WILLINGTON WILMSHURST, Coroner for Central Warwickshire, recently held an inquest at the County Asylum, Hatton, touching the death of a female inmate, Mrs. Julia Duckett, lately living at Southam, who was found dead with a severe gash in her throat, in the store room at the asylum, on the previous Monday morning. It appeared from the evidence, that the deceased was admitted as a suicidal patient on June 8th. There were rules drawn up and approved by the Lunacy Commission, to the effect that suicidal patients were not to be left by the nurses. This woman was left in the store room all alone, and about half-an-hour afterwards she was found lying on her back with her throat cut, quite dead. The nurse who had been cutting the bread and butter for breakfast, had carelessly left the drawer containing the knives unlocked, and the deceased had taken the weapon from this drawer, which was situated in the store room. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst in a state of unsound mind," but at the same time they wished to say that greater care should be exercised in the management of suicidal patients. They thought there was very gross carelessness on the part of three nurses—Godwin and Edgerton, who had left the deceased unattended, and Webb, who had left the drawer unlocked. They contended that these three were not sufficiently staid to take charge of the management of suicidal patients. They further recommended that spring locks should be put on all drawers containing knives, and doors of rooms in which broken glass or bottles were kept. We feel sure the opinions of the jury will meet with widespread approval.

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WE are glad to find that some Irish nuns are receiving training and instruction in nursing before undertaking the care of the sick poor.

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THREE nuns of the order of St. John of God, viz: Sister Visitation (Keating), Sister Baptist (Ryan), Sister Ursella (Hogan), accompanied by the Rev. Mother and Rev. John Kinsella, P.P. Edenderry (who went to meet them in Dublin) arrived in Edenderry by the late train on Thursday from Wexford, to take up their abode in the workhouse to look after the spiritual and temporal needs of God's poor. These Sisters have considerable experience as nurses, having been in Wexford and New Ross Hospitals. The esteem they are held in was amply testified by the large number of people who assembled at the railway station to greet them, and bid them welcome to Edenderry. The sick poor of the Edenderry Workhouse are to be congratulated on having at last the good nuns to care for them, as also are the guardians who acted so wisely in procuring their services.

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A CONTRIBUTOR to a contemporary writes an article upon Field Hospitals, heading it with the

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