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By MARY HARRIS,

Matron of the Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.

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Editorial.

A PUBLIC DANGER.

A CASE, which is reported at length in another column, furnishes a fresh illustration of the dangers to which the public are exposed through the mistakes of inefficient nurses, and supplies another proof of the extreme need for greater care in their education and supervision. An inquest was held at Kingston, concerning the death of a patient in the Isolation Hospital of that district. It will be observed that two facts were made apparent; that the nurse was either very careless or ignorant, or both; and that apparently there is little, or very insufficient, oversight over the work of the nurses at the hospital in question.

With regard to the first point, it would be interesting to know where Nurse Rice was trained. She is stated to have been for two years at the Isolation Hospital, and to have "well understood her duties." It will be generally felt that the latter statement was scarcely corroborated by the evidence; because, in the first place, Nurse Rice imagined the half-drachm symbol meant half-an-ounce; and yet she informed the matron that she had given the patient three drachms of opium in an enema. It is still more surprising that she

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