

left by the same ship. Most of the officers are bound for Jebba, on the Upper Niger, and it is probable that the nurses will be stationed there.

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MISS SUSANNAH LOUISA BIBBY, a nurse at the Eastern Counties Asylum for Idiots, aged 74, recently died from fracture of the base of the skull from injuries due to a fall while going up-stairs. Nurse Bibby had been in the employ of the Asylum since 1865, and much regret is expressed in the institution at her sad death. But at what age, we wonder, do they superannuate their nurses at the Eastern Counties Asylum?

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AT Liscard Police Court, recently, before Messrs. Henry Porley and R. Steel, a professional nurse named Emily Fairclough, aged 21, of Liverpool, was charged with stealing three gold rings, a gold brooch, and a pair of silk gloves, to the total value of £5 13s., the property of Elizabeth Dunsford, at New Brighton, between the 12th and 19th of April. Ada Archer Dunsford stated that she lived at Devonia's, Seabank Road, New Brighton. The prisoner was engaged by her mother, and had been at the house for three weeks. Sergeant Morris deposed as to apprehending the prisoner. When he charged her prisoner admitted the theft. Superintendent M'Donald asked the bench to grant a remand. The prisoner admitted that she had been up in Liverpool for a similar offence, and he desired to make enquiries into her antecedents. The bench accordingly granted a remand.

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It would be interesting to know at what institution this so-called nurse received her training which qualified her for private nursing at the age of 21! And again, having been prosecuted for theft on a previous occasion, upon whose recommendation, she again obtained entrance to a private house. Why tarry the wheels of the Registration chariot? As the Training Schools have failed to move for the protection of the public from the "thief nurse," we are not surprised to hear that some earnest women workers contemplate considering the question of the best means of protecting themselves. They will have a strong case if they count up and present to the public a list of the prosecutions of so-called "trained nurses" which have appeared in the press for the last decade, to say nothing of the cases of larceny and immorality hushed up by institutions to which they were attached.

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THE following extract from last week's "British Medical Journal" on Hospital Ships is very interesting:—

"Throughout the regulations of the Service, be they the Queen's Regulations or the Regula-

tions for the Army Medical Department, the term 'hospital ships' refers merely to ships organised for sick and wounded officers and men 'at the seaboard base of operations in war,' and employed either in lieu of or to supplement general and other hospitals on shore. No sanction whatever exists in the regulations quoted of hospital ships in the sense contended for by all army surgeons and allowed to be a necessity outside the military medical service, that is for the ordinary and extraordinary conveyance of sick officers, non-commissioned officers and men of our forces invalided at different seasons of the year from India, the West Indies, Egypt, South Africa, etc., who are now conveyed to England from our colonies in the ordinary hired troopships, with officers and men, women, and children returning from foreign stations. Taking an average in round numbers for ten years the extent yearly may be stated as follows:

From	Officers.	N. C. O. and Men.
India	140	2,000
Ceylon, the Straits, and China	10	120
Mauritius, South Africa, and St. Helena	10	120
West Indies, Bermuda, Canada	10	70
Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus, Egypt	20	320
Total	190	2,630

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"IN the year 1894 a larger number of men than that given were sent home sick from Ceylon, the Straits, and China, and also from Mauritius, South Africa, and St. Helena; while in the year 1897 the numbers sent home from India exceeded by 258, and from Cyprus, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar by 116, the averages already noted. Now these figures speak sufficiently in favour of applying hospital ships alone for the conveyance of sick.

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"UNDER the present system of accommodating sick in the ordinary troopships, these vessels are sent to England crowded with men, women, and children; officers who are sick have perforce to be kept in a saloon cabin with their healthy comrades. Let us picture to ourselves an officer prostrated with dysentery, abscess of the liver, or severe malarial fever, placed in such a position. Again, no proper hospital can be constructed in a troopship for the requirements of a large number of invalids. If a large number of invalids and sick are sent home, as is often the case, the healthy men are over-crowded. The sick bay in the existing troopships is quite close to the accommodation for women and children, the baggage room, as well as the sergeant's mess. The noise

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