

will not subject himself to a repetition of such snubs in the future. He must realise that reform and justice must be effected in the nursing department, and his uncompromising and partisan attitude on this question must be modified if he does not wish that the whole matter should be referred for investigation to the Local Government Board.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Daily Chronicle* comments on the "Cruelty of Pauper Nursing," and states that in some workhouse infirmaries there is still no classification of inmates. "Side by side may be placed the garrulous dotard, and the child of tender years, the medical and the surgical cases, the sound of mind and the half crazy," or "in full view of the ward a dying man struggles out his last hours on earth." We surely need not wait for an order from the Local Government Board for reform in such matters as these. A little organization, a few screens, would prevent them all.

AT the Midland Poor Law Conference held last week at Birmingham, Miss O'Reilly, assistant-secretary of the "Meath Workhouse Attendants' Association," read a paper on the work of the Association, and pointed out the unsuitability of the large number of sick, infirm, and dying people to be found in our workhouses, being cared for by pauper attendants. Miss O'Reilly demonstrated that pauper nursing was the cause of untold cruelty and prolonged illness, and had nothing to excuse it as the pauper was in no hurry to forward the recovery of a patient to whose illness he or she was indebted for sundry delicacies. The Association, founded by the Countess of Meath, had been formed to ameliorate the condition of workhouse inmates, and provide attendants for them.

MISS SPRAGGE, Matron of the Spalding Johnson Hospital, has sent in her resignation to the trustees, being desirous of giving up active work. Miss Spragge has been Matron of the Hospital for 15½ years, and was previously Matron of the General Hospital, Nottingham.

FROM Cape Town comes the sad news that there have been a hundred cases of enteric fever, and eleven deaths among British troops in Natal since last October. The deaths occurred among the Lancers, the 7th Hussars, the 18th Hussars, the 10th Mountain Battery, the Leicestershire Regiment, and the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Three officers were also stricken with the malady, but recovered. It would be interesting to know what arrangements have been made for nursing these

poor fellows, as a percentage of eleven deaths is terribly high in comparison with the death rate at home in a civil hospital, where skilled nursing is at hand.

IN our last issue we drew attention to a letter from the Agent General for Natal, strongly urging that persons suffering from consumption should not be sent to that colony. A letter to the same effect has now been received from Mr. Milne, Secretary to the Diamond Fields Scottish Association, Kimberley, pointing out how undesirable is the position of such poor invalids at that place. "The Scottish Association here," Mr. Milne says, "have for some years been finding great difficulty in coping with the numbers of destitute consumptives, who keep coming up to Kimberley, seeking health and employment. Most of these unfortunate victims cannot find work, and become the most pitiable spectacles of sickness combined with poverty, and many are the harrowing cases which come to the notice of the association. Its funds are sometimes strained to find the means to send these dying cases home to their friends, or else to bury them. In view of the widespread movement in England and Scotland towards coping with and controlling the ravages of this disease, and in view of the fact that employers of labour in Kimberley and district are refusing to take consumptives into their employment, and in view of the sanatoria that are being opened at home, and also in view of the fact that no consumptive need leave his own country to be cured of the disease, the committee of this association beg to urge you to give all publicity to these facts, and to use your utmost endeavours to prevent the continuance of the stream of destitute and dying consumptives coming out to this country. We do not urge you to this course from selfish reasons on our part, but chiefly from a sense of the cruelty and inhumanity of packing off such cases without means and without employment secured at this end, where living is much more expensive, and the invalids land often amid absolute strangers, friendless, alone, and dying. We would ask you to make these facts as widely known as the Press and your organization may enable you. The climate, however beneficial, cannot do any good in any country in cases where there can be neither food, comfort, nor companionship, but in their places starvation, misery, and dreadful loneliness. We would also draw your attention to the fact that there is no provision in South Africa for any invalids who are unable to spend at least £7 10s. per month in plain board and lodging, and, as employment is now almost impossible to consumptives, no one should leave home unless possessing from £100 to £200."

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