

private asylum, named May Rawlinson and Maud Hankinson, took nine of the lady patients out for a walk. Among them was a young lady of 25 years of age, named Travis Hawthorn, whose parents reside in Manchester, and who had only been a patient at the asylum for ten days. She was known to be of suicidal tendency, but her conduct was such that little fear was entertained for her, although she was carefully watched. During the walk she was placed by the side of Nurse Rawlinson, and was quite well behaved until the party reached a lane when they had to pass an open gateway, a few yards beyond which was a deep pit of water. Catching sight of this pond Miss Hawthorn, without any warning, rushed behind Nurse Rawlinson to the banks of the pit, and, before she could be prevented, plunged into the water. The rest of the patients naturally became very excited, but Nurse Rawlinson, with great presence of mind, ran after Miss Hawthorn and jumped into the pit. She tried her utmost to reach the lady but failed, and Miss Hawthorn was drowned.—The coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst temporarily insane," and commended Miss Rawlinson for her bravery.

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At the weekly meeting of the Clonmel Board of Guardians, Mr. E. O'Donnell, chairman, presiding, the clerk read the following from the Local Government Board in answer to the resolution of the Guardians, passed at their previous meeting in reference to the probationer nurses training in the Workhouse Hospital—"Local Government Board, Dublin, 11th January, 1899.—Sir,—The Local Government Board for Ireland have received the minutes of the Clonmel Board of Guardians of the 5th inst., from which it appears that the Guardians are under a misapprehension, as to the meaning of the statement of the Board in their letter of the 22nd ult. in reference to the status that may be acquired by probationer nurses trained in workhouse hospitals. In their letter of the 22nd ult. the Board, when using the term "trained nurse," had in view those nurses for whom qualifications will be prescribed in accordance with section 58 (2, a ii) of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898, under which half of the salary of one such nurse in each workhouse shall be defrayed out of the local taxation account. Probationer nurses, duly trained and certified, after sufficient residence in Clonmel or other workhouse hospital, approved of by the L.G.B., may, in the absence of any special objection, be recognised as heretofore by the Board as eligible for appointment as nurses in Poor-law Unions, Infirmaries, or Hospitals, although they cannot be regarded as trained for the purposes of the section referred to.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, Thomas A. Mooney,

Secretary." The Clerk said it would take a man with a magnifying glass to see their former letter in that light. There was not a single observation in it about the new Act.

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FROM which we conclude that the Probationers in the Clonmel Infirmary have been granted the privileges for which they petitioned, and without which it would have been impossible to induce young women of the class most desirable to enter for training at the Infirmary, the only alternative being to revert to the horrors of Irish pauper help. We congratulate Miss Holcroft that her pioneer and self-sacrificing work at Clonmel now promises future success.

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THE *Lancet* says: "The Buluwayo newspapers have recently been full of correspondence dealing with the question of the nursing staff at the Memorial Hospital. Shortly the position seems to be as follows. Up to the present the nursing at the hospital has been carried out by a band of Dominican sisters who went up in the time of the Matabele war—i.e., in March, 1896—and who worked with the greatest devotion under very trying circumstances. Devotion and willingness, though both admirable qualities in themselves, especially for hospital nurses cannot, however, in these days make up for lack of training and this training the sisters do not seem to have possessed. In May, 1897, the new resident surgeon, Dr. F. Arnold, was appointed and found matters in a state of complete chaos. Soon after an energetic secretary was appointed, and the pair started each in his own department a crusade of reform. After a long correspondence between the matron on the one hand and the surgeon and secretary on the other a sub-committee was appointed to go into the whole question of management and it was on the report of this committee that the newspaper correspondence started. The report, dated November 1897, stated that it was agreed to accept the proffered resignation of the secretary and surgeon. The resident surgeon, was, however, asked to remain for twelve months which he agreed to do. The report proceeded to recommend that a matron and seven trained sisters should be obtained. The position at the present moment seems to be that the resident surgeon has resigned but is remaining, and also that the matron and sisters have resigned but are also remaining. The hospital board sub-committee suggested that three of the present staff should proceed to Europe at their own expense to be trained and that to supply their place a matron and three nurses should be obtained from Europe, and that their expenses should be paid by the hospital

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