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**Editorial.**

WORKHOUSES AS MORTUARIES.

**N**URSES, to their credit be it said, seldom, if ever, refuse to carry out the duties connected with their work, however unpleasant these may be, but there is a limit to the offices which should be required of them, and it is incumbent upon authorities to see that they are not asked to undertake work which should be performed by others. The question as to whether their workhouse should be used as a public mortuary was recently brought before the Chichester Guardians. It was reported to them that a dead body had been brought late at night to the house to await an inquest, and that the workhouse nurses did not think it right that, in a case like this, brought in from outside, they should be called on to lay the dead person out, and deposit the remains in the coffin after a post-mortem examination. Had the case been one occurring inside the house, they would, of course, have undertaken these tasks as part of their duty. There can be no doubt that no nurses should be asked to undertake the duties devolving upon the caretakers of a public mortuary, and setting this fact aside, the person brought in from outside may have been exposed to, or even died from, an

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