

generated by the Lady Superintendent that when Committees secure one who is really efficient they cannot be too appreciative of her services.

At the annual meeting of the subscribers to the Cornelia Hospital, Poole, Dr. J. S. Stewart, who was unable to be present, referred in eulogistic terms in a letter to the work of the nursing staff. After taking the opportunity of thanking the Matron and nursing staff for the great assistance they had been to the medical staff in the treatment of the patients at the Cornelia Hospital during the past years, Dr. Stewart continued: "The post of Matron to this hospital is a most responsible one, there being no house surgeon, but I can confidently say that the need of the latter has never been felt by us, the medical staff. This is, of course, entirely due to the skilful care and attention of the Matron towards the patients. I am sure in writing this I am but expressing the sentiments of the whole of the medical staff."

We are glad to notice that at their last meeting the Barnsley Board of Guardians approved the action of the House Committee in rescinding a testimonial granted to a nurse who was leaving. The circumstances were as follows:—The nurse, whose notice would have expired on a Friday, applied for permission to leave the workhouse on the previous Monday. This was refused, as in order to prevent the spread of small-pox at the workhouse the Guardians had wisely directed that no patient or inmate be discharged from the infirmary until after the period of possible infection was over; all leave of absence of officers was also temporarily stopped. Nurse Richardson, the nurse in question, was determined to leave, and, being refused permission, succeeded in gaining an exit by climbing the entrance gates. Under the circumstances we do not wonder that the Guardians refused to give her a testimonial.

Miss Christine Aldis, of the Shipley District Nursing Association, has tendered her resignation in order to take up the appointment of Matron of the Nursing Institute, Sunderland. In announcing her resignation, Miss Aldis says that she has met with so much kindness and consideration in Shipley that it is with the greatest regret she severs her connection with its District Nursing Association.

In connection with the new Constitution adopted by the Glasgow and West of Scotland Co-operation of Trained Nurses, under which the Executive have taken power to "solicit and collect" subscriptions and bequests, a correspondent in the *Glasgow Herald* says:—

"Lord Provost Chisholm, who presided at the annual meeting on November 20th, 1901, then said: 'The institution does not appeal for subscriptions. The nurses themselves by their quarterly

and other payments make the institution not only entirely self-supporting, but yield such a credit balance that the heritable property account is rapidly being written down. I have often had occasion to appeal to the citizens of Glasgow for subscriptions to support other institutions, but what I have to do on this occasion is to call attention to the existence of an institution which supports itself.'

"The public, who are now to be called upon for subscriptions, have a right to know why the executive have converted this self-supporting institution into a charitable one, and so deprived the 168 nurses (who last year earned £9,626) of that sturdy spirit of independence which is characteristic of the Scot. Will the executive kindly explain?"

An explanation is without doubt needed. Whatever subscriptions and bequests the nurses may obtain by collection, they will get nothing which will recompense them for the loss of their independence. No money can compensate for this.

A curious point has arisen in connection with the appointment of Miss Ward, which we chronicled in a recent issue, to the important position of Superintendent Nurse at the great workhouse infirmary in Belfast. The Local Government Board have requested the observations of the Guardians on a letter they received from Miss J. Lamb, a lady who was rendered ineligible for the appointment by her age. The Guardians advertised for applications from ladies "having at least five years' experience as nurse in a general hospital." Miss Lamb contended that, as the lady appointed had been trained at the Brownlow Hill Infirmary, Liverpool, and had since held the position of Superintendent Nurse in a Poor Law infirmary, she had not complied with the terms of the advertisement. The Guardians decided to answer that Miss Ward had complied with the terms of the advertisement. Technically, perhaps not; but the Brownlow Hill Infirmary certainly ranks as a nurse-training school, and the experience there obtained is an excellent preparation for the superintendence of the Belfast Infirmary.

We welcome any efforts made for the timely prevention and cure of mental disease, which too often remains untreated until it is well-established. Recent science in Germany and France has led to the belief that the present burden of taxation caused by lunacy may be lessened, and slight nervous cases benefited by the adoption of hygienic methods, food reform, and sun cure in the connection with these cases, and Dr. Marie, of Paris, asserts:—"Brain malady is only another expression of physical illness, and therefore, as such, curable." A lady who is interested in the sun treatment of cases of mental breakdown is willing to provide the land for the establishment of a colony for the treatment of such patients, provided that others will

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