

in the arm. This so incensed her that she hurled the child back and left the room. When the father heard of this occurrence he, too, lost his temper and gave the nurse a box on the ears, upon which she summoned both father and child. The father maintained she had endangered the child's life by leaving it in bed uncovered; the nurse asserted that she only left the child because she wished to give notice and quit the house. In the end the judge acquitted the nurse, and the father was ordered to pay a small fine. We must own, if the circumstances are as alleged, the father had considerable provocation. We pity delirious patients in Vienna if they are subjected to the care of nurses who act in the manner described.

Some interesting work has recently been done by the Nurses' Settlement in New York in connection with the recent epidemic of enteric fever in Ithaca. The Health Officer of the City, Dr. Hitchcock, whose sister, Miss Jane E. Hitchcock, is head nurse of the Settlement, appealed to it to establish visiting nursing among the people who could not afford a private nurse, and to teach the details of disinfection and sanitation to the patients' families. In response Miss Hitchcock went to Ithaca, taking with her Miss Alice Linton and Miss Minnie Jordan, both of the New York Hospital, who had had experience in district nursing. Miss Hitchcock reported the work as most satisfactory and interesting. The homes were comfortable and well-to-do, and the families only needed teaching in order to give intelligent care.

Numbers of private nurses were in the town, and many seemed equally uninstructed with the patients. One such nurse was found diluting the patient's broth with water from the tap, and said in extenuation that she did not know this was wrong. Dr. Hitchcock said to his sister that he wished for Heaven's sake nurses would establish some mode of distinction between those who knew something and those who knew nothing, so that the public would have some way of choosing between them. He said, "They come here saying they are nurses, and all wearing gingham, and how is one to know?" Here is a strong plea for State Registration, the only effective mode of distinction between the trained and the untrained.

Miss Marion E. Smith, Chief Nurse of the Training-School of the Philadelphia Hospital, has resigned her position, having been elected Superintendent of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Miss Smith's loss will be greatly felt by all at the Philadelphia Hospital, where she has done such efficient work for so many years, having succeeded Miss Alice Fisher, the founder of the school.

### Timely Assistance.

The accident which occurred on Saturday last between Castlereagh and Ballymoe, when the night mail was derailed, resulted, unfortunately, in the loss of one life and in injury and shock to eleven other persons. Most fortunately there was in the train a nurse from Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin—Miss Taafe—whose ready aid to the wounded came in most opportunely. The assistance which she was able to afford before any doctors arrived proved most valuable, and was given with the utmost readiness and despatch, so that before medical assistance came she had been able to give a considerable amount of help in alleviating pain and suffering. Her services also proved of the greatest value when the doctors did come and were attending the injured. Trained nursing is indeed an invaluable assistant to modern medicine and surgery.

### The Hospital World.

#### THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The new Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, is now beginning to take shape, and some estimate can be formed of the appearance of the finished building, which, when completed, will cost nearly £250,000.

As is now usual, the Infirmary is being built on the pavilion system, and there are to be eight pavilions in all, with the administrative block in the centre. The pavilions are about 70 ft. apart, and are arranged so as to secure the best possible aspect for all departments. They are connected by a long corridor. The surgical wards will be on the ground floor, and the medical wards on the floor above. The walls are to be lined with glazed bricks to a height of 5 ft. Above the bricks they will be of cement, finished with enamel paint. The floors will be of teak parquet, paraffin polished, and the corridor will be laid with terrazzo. It is expected that the Nurses' Home will be finished before the end of the present year. It will contain more than 100 bedrooms, and from its windows there will be a charming view of the country stretching away in front.

The foundation-stone of the building, which was laid nearly three years ago, with its gilt inscription is a conspicuous feature in the administrative block. The material chosen for the exterior walls is Huncoat red brick with stone dressings.

The architects of the Infirmary are Mr. W. Lister Newcombe, F.R.I.B.A., of Newcastle, and Mr. H. Percy Adams, of London, who has since designed the King's Sanatorium. The Chairman of the Building Committee is Sir Riley Lord.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)