

Orphans' Home in Jersey, an institution that contains about 140 girls of various ages. We learn from an authentic source that the family from the orphanage have, as a rule, enjoyed excellent health, and did so up to May 18, when several were suffering from what was declared to be gastric fever. On searching for the cause, it was attributed to the water from a well which has been in existence and supplied the wants of the locality for at least a century. But on additions and changes being made on the property in 1862, a cesspool some six or seven feet deep in dry rubble stone was made some fifty or sixty feet from the well, in red clay; this received the sewage from water-closets, and to this cesspool is attributed the pollution of the water, which in colour and taste showed no sign of impurity, but on being tested, was proved to be impure. The particulars of this analysis, by Mr. Morgan, will be found in the *Chemical News* of August 29. The closing of the well put an end to the cases of typhoid, which seems to confirm the truth of the conclusion arrived at.

DR. WM. FARR AND THE REGISTRAR GENERALSHIP.—There can be but one opinion, says the *Medical Times and Gazette*, as to the treatment to which Dr. Farr has been subjected, and we think that his dignified and temperate letter to Major Graham, the retiring Registrar-General, deserves to be known by all: "December 23.—Sir,—Having now heard from you that Sir Brydges Henniker is to be the new Registrar-General, and thus having lost all chance of being your successor, I shall be glad if the Lords of her Majesty's Treasury will allow me to resign my appointment, and will grant me superannuation allowance to the extent of my full pay. I have served under you nearly forty years, I have taken with you three censuses, and I feel confident that I can leave my case in your hands.—(Signed) William Farr." The Government doubtless has its reasons for passing over Dr. Farr cut and dry, but by ordinary people no valid reason can be found for passing over the claims of one who has earned a world-wide reputation in the discharge of his duties, in favour of a mere political partisan, possessing, so far as is known, not a single qualification fitting him for the important post of Registrar-General.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CANTON OF DURICH—(*Med. Times and Gazette*)—have just taken an important step with regard