

vassing, but should be left, as the governors have already decided in meeting, to the Selection Committee, who are in the best position to weigh the respective claims.

#### NURSING IN AUSTRALIA.

J.F.J. writes: Two well-trained nurses (one of them a sister) in one of the large hospitals in this town, wish to become nurses or sisters in a hospital in Australia. Is there some agent in London through whom they could get such a situation?

\*.\* We have referred this question to the Assistant Agent-General of South Australia, who states that, so far as South Australia is concerned, all appointments in hospitals and asylums are made in the colony, and not here in London. There is very little doubt, however, that the two nurses referred to, if thoroughly competent and possessing good characters, would very soon find employment in South Australia.

#### DIPLOMA IN SANITARY SCIENCE.

G.C. writes: Some time ago I read that it was necessary for a man who wanted to hold a dispensary or other medical (Government) appointment, to have, in addition to the three qualifications (Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics) a diploma in Sanitary Science. Does that apply to Ireland, and, if so, when does it come in force, and where easiest obtained?

\*.\* There is no requirement of the kind referred to in the Local Government Service of Ireland.

#### NOTES, LETTERS, ETC.

##### HUMBOLDT ON VACCINATION.

A MEMBER writes: Now that the vaccination question is under discussion in the House of Commons, the unprejudiced opinion of a philosopher and keen observer, not belonging to the medical profession, may help to refute the illogical arguments of anti-vaccinators. Baron von Humboldt writes: "Among the causes of the depopulation of the *Raudales*"—the district of the rapids on the Orinoco—"I have not reckoned the small-pox, that malady which in some parts of America makes such cruel ravages that the natives, seized with dismay, burn their huts, kill their children, and renounce every kind of society. This scourge is almost unknown on the banks of the Orinoco, and, should it penetrate thither, it is to be hoped that its effects may be immediately counteracted by vaccination, the blessings of which are daily felt along the coasts of *Terra Firma*" (Continental South America).

##### HOSPITAL ABUSE.

A VICTIM (Birmingham) writes: Your correspondent "*Panem Nostrum Quotidianum*," is quite right in saying that you deserve the thanks of medical men in endeavouring "to stem the flood of charity physic." The whole system of hospital relief requires thorough revision. In Birmingham—and I dare say many other large towns—hundreds who can well afford to pay a private practitioner obtain attendance at the hospital weekly. What is the result? The noble profession is reduced to the level of a huckster. Here many a private practitioner sees patients at the surgery at 6d., 9d., and 1s. a head, and will give visits and medicine for 3s. 6d. per week. A private insurance agent has mapped Birmingham out into districts, has organised what he calls a "Medical Aid Society." Thousands have joined his society and pay to him 1d. per week for medicine and professional attendance; he then, with the air of a potentate, appoints medical men for the different districts, and at the end of each quarter gives his cheque, so that a vast number of the artisans of Birmingham really form a gigantic club, and obtain the services and the medicine of a medical man for next to nothing.

The Birmingham Hospital and the Birmingham official dispensaries are to blame for this state of things. It certainly is high time that a medical man should be in a position to earn something more than bread and cheese in this large and prosperous town.

##### EMPHYEMA & EMPYEMA.

E. MANSEL SYMPSON, M.A., M.B.Cantab. (Lincoln) writes: Every now and then the second curious spelling of this word crops out, like a geological fault. A year or two back a notice board at one of our largest hospitals bore the same curious characters, and in the March number of a medical monthly I notice the same running right through one article, and so it is no mere misprint. Whether the derivation of pus from blood has had anything to do with perverting men's minds, we wot not. Certain it is that all authority derives this word from *ἐμπίμνα*, a gathering, from *ἐμπίμνω*, to have abscesses in the lungs. Liddell and Scott, or the *New Sydenham Society's Lexicon*, should suffice to prove it. Like the popular pronunciation of *ênéma*—*ênéma* (though no one stumbles at *ênéma*), *empyema* seems deeply rooted. These two instances, among many others, show the real want of just such a dictionary as Mr. Power and Dr. Sedgwick are completing.

#### COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:

M.D.; Mr. J. Gay, London; Mr. E. J. Adams, Sheffield; The President and Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, London; Dr. G. H. Mackenzie, Edinburgh; Mr. J. Bellamy, London; Messrs. J. Richardson and Co., Leicester; Mr. C. J. Evans, Northampton; Dr. Russell, Glasgow; Dr. Lockie, Carlisle; Mr. W. W. Kelly, London; Mr. J. B. Gabe, Swansea; Miss Boyce, Liverpool; Dr. E. Walford, Cardiff; Messrs. Hawkes, Somerville, and Co., London; Professor Gairdner, Glasgow; Messrs. Charles Green and Co., London; Mr. R. T. E. Davies, New Tredegar; Sir Edward Sieveking, London; Dr. W. C. Wile, Danbury, Conn.; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, and Co.; The Registrar of the University of London; Dr. Mickle, London; Mr. G. P. Field, London; M. B. Shirley, M.B., Batley; Dr. J. Althaus, London; Mr. E. C. Greenwood, London; Mr. N. C. Haring, Manchester; Mr. A. Price, St. David's; Mr. Wm. Thorburn, Rusholme; Dr. J. F. Payne, London; Mr. M. C. Brown, Andover; Messrs. Jones, Brothers, and Co., Wolverhampton; Dr. de Thilo, Lausanne; Messrs. N. P. Sandiford and

Son, Manchester; Mr. J. White, Burnley; The Secretary of the Royal Statistical Society, London; Dr. R. B. Moore, Rockcorry; Dr. Cargill, Jamaica; Dr. T. Eytton-Jones, Wrexham; Mr. A. W. Nankivell, Chatham; Our Australian Correspondent, Melbourne; Dr. W. F. Haslam, Birmingham; Dr. Biddle, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. Lawson Tait, Birmingham; Justitia; Mr. G. E. Jeaffreson, Framlingham; Mr. Harrison Cripps, London; Dr. F. H. Walmsley, Manchester; Sperans; Dr. Theodore Williams, London; Dr. C. R. Illingworth, Accrington; Dr. G. L. Mullins, London; Mr. W. B. Clarke, London; Mr. H. E. Friend, London; The Rev. J. Clifford, Harbury; Dr. R. D. Nicolls, Navan; Mr. C. G. Campbell, Saddleworth; J. L. Spiers, M.B., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Plowman, London; Dr. James Oliver, London; Mr. W. Berry, Wigan; Mr. G. E. Williamson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. N. Stevenson, London; Dr. R. H. Todd, Sydney, New South Wales; Mr. G. Imlay, Pitforthie; Dr. Platt, London; Mr. P. G. Lee, Cork; Mr. Lennox Browne, London; Dr. H. D. Buss, St. Raphael; Dr. J. Williams, London; Mr. C. R. Huxley, London; Messrs. Street and Co., London; Dr. C. R. Drysdale, London; Professor Charteris, Glasgow; Mr. J. H. Mawson, Hollinwood; Mr. A. McLean, Portland; Mr. R. R. Slemman, London; Mr. J. Powell, Newcastle Emllyn; Dr. W. A. McLachlan, Dumbarton; Mr. C. Greville, Kegworth; Dr. H. G. Lee, Thame; Dr. J. Roche, Kingstown; Mr. J. Startin, London; Mr. C. Matthews, Exeter; W. Maule, M.B., Southport; Mr. N. F. Davey, Abergavenny; Dr. J. Jenkyns, Belize, British Honduras; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Observer; Blackburn; A Member of the South-Eastern Branch; Mr. H. A. Fotherby, London; L.R.C.P.; Mr. Wickham Barnes, London; Dr. A. Sheen, Cardiff; Mr. A. F. Hawkins, Birmingham; Mr. B. W. Thomas, Welwyn; Dr. Thin, London; Medical Student; Mr. E. J. H. Midwinter, London; Mr. G. Mowat, St. Albans; Mr. E. Cresswell Baber, Brighton; Sir Lyon Playfair, London; Dr. E. Gumpert, Manchester; Mr. D'Arcy B. Carter, Shipley; Mr. G. C. Peachey, Portslade; Mr. W. Harrop, Rotherham; Dr. W. Carter, Liverpool; Mr. R. T. Smith, London; Dr. H. S. Lunn, London; Dr. F. C. Turner, London; Mr. R. A. Smith, Sheffield; Dr. Arldige, Stoke-on-Trent; Mr. G. W. Collins, London; Dr. R. Stockman, Leith; Mr. Arthur Roberts, Reading; Dr. T. Johnstone, Ilkley; Dr. W. J. R. Knight, Cookstown; The Secretary of the Church of England Burial Reform, etc., Association, York; Dr. J. Milward, Cardiff; Mr. C. B. Ball, Dublin; Surgeon, A.M.S.; Dr. F. W. Barry, Settle; Dr. W. Hind, Stoke-on-Trent; Mr. F. Penberthy, London; Mr. F. Hobbes, Sutton Coldfield, etc.

#### BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Lectures on Pathological Anatomy. By Samuel Wilks, M.D., F.R.S., and the late Walter Moxon, M.D., F.R.C.P. Third Edition. By Samuel Wilks, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1889.

The Treatment of Lateral Curvature of the Spine, with Appendix on the Treatment of Flat-Foot. By Bernard Roth, F.R.C.S. London: H. K. Lewis 1889.

Subjects of Social Welfare. By The Right Hon. Sir Lyon Playfair, K.C.B., M.P., LL.D., Ph.D., F.R.S. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.

The Bacteria in Asiatic Cholera. By E. Klein, M.D., F.R.S. London: Macmillan and Co. 1889.

The Primitive Family in its Origin and Development. By C. N. Starcke. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1889.

The Modern Rack. By Frances Power Cobbe. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1889.

#### SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

Seven lines and under	...	...	...	...	20	3	6
Each additional line	...	...	...	...	0	0	4
A whole column	...	...	...	...	1	15	0
A page	...	...	...	...	5	0	0

An average line contains seven words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

For 6 insertions, a deduction of	...	...	10 per cent.
" 12 or 13 "	...	...	20 "
" 25 "	...	...	25 "
" 52 "	...	...	30 "

Special terms for occasional change of copy during series:

20 per cent. if not less than 26 pages be taken	or their equivalent
25 "	in half or
30 "	quarter pages.

For these terms the series must, in each case, be completed within twelve months from the date of first insertion.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager at the Office, not later than noon on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be paid in postage-stamps.

NOTICE.—Advertisers are requested to observe that it is contrary to the Postal Regulations to receive at Post-Offices letter addressed to initials only.