

'*fleur-de-lis*,' the shading of which, by some curious twistings, caused each flower to resemble a death's head. The patient in the night detected this singular extravagance of art, and, half asleep and half awake, fancied himself in a sort of crypt of skulls, which caused him a sleeplessness that lasted until the morning, and led to a bad day. The walls of the sick-room should be quite plain, and of grey or light green colour, but there is no objection to cheerful pictures if they are now and then changed in position, and are pleasant to the mind of the invalid without becoming wearisome. Flowers in the sick-room are always good so long as they are bright and fresh; but they should be frequently changed, and it is sound practice to remove them during the night. Flowers which have a sickly odour, lilies, for example, should be excluded, however charming they may be to the eye. As a rule, living flowers are better than dead. Dried leaves, like pot-pourri, are bad for the sick-room; they gather dust and the stale odour they emit impairs the purity of the air."

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I AM glad to hear that at the recent examinations at St. Bartholomew's, Miss Hunter obtained the gold medal in the senior list, and Miss Graham Marshall came out first and gained the prize in the preliminary examinations.

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I HEAR that the judges have awarded the prize for this month's Essay Competition to Miss Emily Irwin Knight, who I believe was trained at the Westminster Hospital, and is now working in connection with the well-known and excellently-managed London Association of Nurses in New Bond Street. I am told that Miss Alice Pope, who gained the prize in the previous competition, has chosen the book, "Hartshorne's Manual of Household Medicine."

S. G.

MRS. DUYCK FUND.—We beg to acknowledge with grateful thanks the receipt of half-a-guinea from Miss South, Hastings and St. Leonards Hospital, being a donation to the above fund; also one shilling (in stamps) from Miss Helen Dunn, Kent House, London Road, Red Hill; also (through the same lady) three votes, the donation of Mr. Richard Barrington; also two votes from Miss A. F. Hamilton, Gower House, Hampstead. Mrs. Duyck also begs to acknowledge with sincere thanks, one vote from W. H. Farmer, Esq., received through the kindness of Mrs. Down.

HUMAN nature, finding it impossible to prevent death, misery and ignorance, would fain endeavour to be happy in oblivion of them.—PASCAL.

### THIS WEEK'S VACANCIES.

ADDRESS.	SITUATION.	SALARY.	APPLICATION TO
Bedford Nurses' Institute.	Trained Nurses.		Lady Superintendent.
Bristol Royal Infirmary.	Certificated Surgical Nurse and Masseuse.		Matron.
Chichester West Sussex Infirmary.	Trained Nurses (one for Male, and one for Female Wards). Assistant Nurse.	£30.	Matron.
Guildford Royal Surrey County Hospital.	Assistant Nurse.	£16.	Matron.
Hampstead Home Hospital and Nursing Institution.	Trained Nurses for Private Staff	£20.	Sister Superintendent, Parliament Hill Rd., N.W.
Hemel Hempstead West Herts Infirmary.	Probationer.	£10.	Matron.
Hull (near).	Housekeeper and Nurse Companion to invalid lady, and charge of two children.	State salary required	H., Box 30, Post Office, Hull.
Manchester and Salford Sick Poor and Private Nursing Institution.	Matron.	£60.	Miss Potter, Heald Grove, Rusholme, Manchester.
Newcastle-on-Tyne.	Trained Nurses (three).	£25.	Matron, Nurses' Home, 11, Ellison Place.
Newcastle-on-Tyne Hospital for Sick Children, Moor Edge.	Ward Sister.	£30.	Matron.
Paris, Levick Institute.	Trained Nurses.		Lady Principal.
Ryde (Isle of Wight) Nursing Institution.	Monthly Nurse (lady).		Matron.
50, Seymour Place, Bryanston Square, W.	Lady Nurse.		S., c/o. Robins.
Shepton Mallet District Hospital.	Head Nurse (one who can dispense preferred)	£30.	Secretary.
West Malling, Kent.	Trained Nurses.		Lady Supt., Kent Nursing Institution.
Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association.	Trained Nurses.		Hon. Secretary, 6, Adam Street, Strand.

### WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has promised a donation of £50 towards the project for converting North Woolwich Gardens into a public park.

FRIDAY'S *Gazette* announces that the Queen has been pleased to appoint Cecilia Maria Charlotte, Viscountess Downe, to be one of the Ladies of the Bedchamber in Ordinary to Her Majesty, in the room of Jane, Dowager Marchioness of Ely, appointed Extra Lady of the Bedchamber.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, who has been staying some time upon the Continent, is expected to return this week to Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park. This is welcome news, as it is to be concluded that her health has been benefitted by her visit abroad, and that therefore she will be able to grace many functions this season, where her presence will be eagerly looked for.

THE Queen Regent of Spain washed the feet of the poor at the Royal Palace of Madrid on Good

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