

Nurse it is your duty to deal with the trouble, *not* account for it. Always take the most hopeful *view* of any case of infantile ophthalmia, simple or severe, but keep your *opinions* to yourself; respect the feelings of your patients, gentle or simple, and you will do more to win their regard than by airing your superior (?) knowledge of the subject.

Our first care after an attack of ophthalmia is to ascertain what amount, if any, of damage the eyes have sustained by it. We examine them, and we may possibly observe on one or both eyes a little localised cloudiness, commonly called specks. They are permanent, and due to what ophthalmic Surgeons call ulceration of the cornea, the result of disease spreading to the eye structures. One effect of this lesion is that the delicate muscular adjustments of the eye are interfered with, and a defect called "squinting," or strabismus, a very frequent sequelæ of infantile ophthalmia ensues, which can ultimately be remedied by ophthalmic surgery. There are other ways of treating the disease we have just been describing, but as far as my experience goes, I know of none *surer*, if promptly begun and thoroughly carried out, and in that respect, safer to women engaged in Midwifery practice, *to begin with*, as it aids other and more drastic measures that may be necessary later on. My readers must have observed in this course of treatment that the eyes are not to be *washed*. Water simply spreads the matter about, and our object is to localise the discharge, and dry it up as soon as it forms. All the rags used to wipe the eyes should be *dry*, soft, and clean; but, in my judgment, cotton-wool is preferable to rags.

(To be continued.)

NURSING ECHOES.

THE Special Prize Competition has been a great success, the number of caps sent in having exceeded the most sanguine expectations. In next week's issue a list of those selected as meritorious will be given, and as soon as possible afterwards—a fortnight or three weeks, perhaps—the award will be made.



I WOULD venture to remind my readers that the

Loefflund's Mustard Leaves (prepared specially for Sinapisms from the finest seed only. The most efficacious and reliable form of mustard-plaster. Clean, quick, portable. Tins of 10, 1s. 6d. Special quotations for larger sizes, containing 50, 100, and 200 leaves each. R. Baelz and Co., 14-20, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

Essays for the Twenty-fifth Prize Essay Competition, which has for its subject, "Give a History of the Work and Progress of Nursing during the Present Century," should reach the office not later than Saturday next.

A NEW Nurses' Home at Stockton-on-Tees is to be founded, and Messrs. Head, Wrightson, and Co., the well-known manufacturing firm has most generously given £100 towards the furnishing. Will other firms please copy.

OUR contemporary, the *Metropolitan*, has the following:—"The Wandsworth Guardians, having had some trouble with their Nurses, who, like a large number in other Unions, leave frequently, have taken the bull—not the Nurses—by the horns, and have approved of an agreement, to be signed after a month's satisfactory trial, binding the Nurses to engage for three years. This is all very well, and looks nice on paper; but will the Nurses sign? We doubt it, judging from the trouble other Unions have in retaining Nurses." And this is the form of it: "To the Clerk of the Guardians of the Wandsworth and Clapham Union.—Sir,—Having become practically acquainted with the duties of an Assistant Nurse, I engage in accordance with the regulations of the Guardians, and in return for the advantages bestowed upon me, to continue in their service for the space of at least three years, in whatever Nursing situation the Guardians shall think suitable to my abilities. I further agree, during such period of three years, not to enter into any engagement except with the consent of the Guardians, and not to leave my situation without having given due notice to the Guardians."

THE St. George's, Hanover Square, Guardian Board also are not altogether happy in their Nursing arrangements, for "the Local Government Board wrote that they had considered the representations of the Guardians in respect to the age at which Assistant Nurses should be appointed, but adhered to their view that persons under the age of twenty-one should not be appointed to the office. A Member: I hope we shall go on as before, and pay no notice to this letter. The Clerk: You must have the sanction of the Local Government Board. Mr. Piper: We cannot get them at any age. Yesterday there were no applications received for the appointment of Night Nurse. If the Local Government Board won't

NOTICE.—Messrs. Baelz and Co. respectfully invite correspondence from the members of the Nursing profession, to whom they will be happy to forward full particulars of Messrs. Loefflund and Co.'s products, and quote special terms in such cases as may be found conducive to a thorough and practical test of these "excellent preparations." 14-20, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

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