

"It is an ill-wind that blows nobody any good." The present epidemic is made useful in many ways—by the greengrocers who affirm that orange juice is *the* only preventive; by the chemists who declare that their particular "mixture" is a sure prophylactic; and even by the criminals in the dock who are prepared to swear that they would never, never have picked a pocket, or "lifted" from a shop counter, had it not been for the absent-mindedness produced by influenza. We are quite prepared to admit paralysis after diphtheria, and pulmonary trouble after measles; but it has yet to be proved that robbery and violence are the legitimate *sequelæ* of influenza.

A WELL-KNOWN "children's doctor" recommends a blanket wrung out of very hot water to be wrapped round a baby in convulsions, instead of the time-honored mustard bath, which he considers very inferior to his substitute.

I WONDER who originated the plan of daily visits from Trained Nurses to sick rooms? It is an excellent idea, and will gain largely in popularity as it becomes more widely known. So many people cannot afford the entire services of a competent Nurse, and yet they may be able and ready to pay a daily fee for a trained hand to perform some of those duties for an invalid which need skill and experience. The Home Nurse, as a rule, is not able to undertake the bed-making for a helpless patient, the taking of the pulse, respiration and temperature, the surgical dressings after operations, and a hundred other offices of the kind that the patient may need. Many people are obliged to go to a Hospital for minor operations, simply because the nursing cannot be done at home without a larger outlay than can be afforded. Want of accommodation is another objection to a Nurse altogether in the house. But these objections are now removed by the establishment of a visiting Nurse. In time to come, no doubt, the Private Nurses will be divided into two classes—the resident and non-resident, the latter paying her calls in the wake of the Doctor, and taking her fees very much in the same way as he does. From the point of view of the Nurse with home ties, this arrangement will work admirably.

DR. NEWSHOLME, Medical Officer of Health for Brighton, has made a special report on the prevalent malady. He considers that, although the disease is chiefly fatal in the first and fourth quarters of the year, the weather has no causative influence on it. It is not due to any local insanitary conditions, nor to any specially miasmatic state of the atmosphere, but it is eminently

infectious, which is shown by the facts that when a household is attacked several cases usually occur in rapid succession, that the source of infection can generally be traced, and that the epidemic appears in a locality after the arrival of cases from an infected district.

THE re-drainage of St. Bartholomew's Hospital is, I understand, being rapidly proceeded with, special care being taken to ensure the best results. HASSALL'S Patent Safety-Jointed Pipes are being used throughout the entire work. The Hospital is to be re-floored throughout, and the Ward Kitchens and Lavatories are to be tiled, and constructed with all the modern improvements. This is good news for the coming generation of Probationers, as the labour wasted over cleaning baths, sinks, &c.—all constructed of metal instead of china—has been a trial in the past. I should imagine the change will effect a great saving in the drug bill in the items of turpentine and tow.

MISS ADELAIDE L. EYRE, the winner in the Thirty-first Series of Post-Card Examinations, and which many readers will remember had for its subject, "A Description of the Nursing Treatment Required in a Case of Influenza," has chosen for her prize, "My Study Windows," by LOWELL, "Practical Dispensing," "Employment of Women," by ARTHUR HENRY RUTH, and "Gray's Elegy in a Country Churchyard."

MRS. BARRETT, wife of the Rector of St. Luke's Church, Atlanta, U.S.A., who served her probation as a Nurse in St. Thomas's Hospital, London, has just organised a voluntary Nursing sisterhood, composed of about thirty members of her husband's church. These ladies have pledged themselves to attend a three months' course of weekly lectures on practical Nursing, and to visit the sick poor one day every month. Mrs. BARRETT herself takes a deep interest in all things appertaining to Nursing; she holds a degree from the Women's Medical College, Georgia, for proficiency in Trained Nursing, and expects to obtain her M.D. from the same college in March. S. G.

Fresh Pages.

WE have received the popular work, "The Annual of the Universal Medical Sciences for 1891," and have been favoured by a well-known medical man with the following review of it: "The five volumes for 1891 are well up to the high standard of excellence attained in previous years. The editor, Dr. Charles Sajous, of Philadelphia, has accomplished his task under

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