

mentary powers is premature, and that, to use the common expression, the cart is being placed before the horse. Let it be granted, for the sake of argument, that the present order of Midwives should be mended rather than ended as more than one influential medical journal suggests. Surely, the first step should be to commence at the beginning, and improve their education; then to institute more and more stringent tests of their efficiency; and then, and not until then, to register the Certificates which they had gained after such examinations. Legal Registration, in short, appears to us to be the top of the ladder, and the advocates for the Midwives' Bill appear to us to have turned the ladder upside down, and, in making Registration the base of education and not its apex, we cannot but think that they have made a serious mistake.

TESTING NERVE POWER.

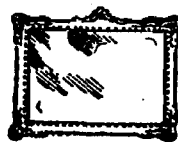
THE Tromometre, a novel apparatus for testing the degree of nerve control in a patient, has been invented by Dr. Quintard, of Angiers. The instrument includes a long needle, bent at the end, and a screw-plate containing twenty holes of different sizes. The two parts are introduced into the circuit of an electric battery and the patient taking hold of them is instructed to introduce the point of the needle into the various openings in succession, beginning with the largest. When the needle is placed in the exact centre, a bell rings, and from this a record is prepared. The immoderate use of coffee, chronic poisoning with lead, mercury or alcohol, violent exercises, convalescence after severe fevers, produce a tremula which is more or less pronounced. The use of the tromometre gives to those directly interested a chance to watch the progress or decline of a nervous disease and its symptoms under the influence of medical or hygienic treatment. Marksmen on the eve of a contest, surgeons before performing a delicate surgical operation, can test the steadiness of their nerves with this ingenious apparatus, which affords to laymen as well an interesting study for the collection of record matter of an entirely new phase.

TYPHOID IN BUTTER.

NURSES would do well to remember the fact which has just been made public, that an epidemic of typhoid fever has been traced to the use of butter made from the milk from an infected farm. It has been well known, of course, for years, that milk was a common carrier of the disease, so that there is nothing astonishing in the new discovery. But it emphasizes the necessity for caution and investigation in the event of an outbreak of the fever without any very evident cause. In this connection also it is well to remember that ice, even when to all appearance pure, has been found to contain germs capable of developing disease, and should, therefore, not be allowed to come in contact with food or drink. Probably, in many cases, illness, which has been attributed to taking iced drinks, was, in fact, due to the presence of disease germs, and not, as has been often thought, to the cold.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE Princess CHRISTIAN has graciously consented to open a grand bazaar, to be held at Reading, on November the 23rd, in aid of the funds of the Helena Nursing Home.

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THE Mayor of Portsmouth has received a letter from the Duke of CONNAUGHT, expressing his high appreciation of the manner in which he had been treated by the civil authorities while in Command of the southern district, and enclosing a cheque for £250 for division among the Portsmouth charities.

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MISS LUCY WHITE has been appointed Matron to the Worthing Infirmary. She was trained at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, and, after a varied and extensive experience in Nursing, was appointed four years ago Matron to the Brecon County Infirmary.

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MISS MINNIE WALTERS has been appointed Sister-in-charge of a large medical ward at the Royal Infirmary, Dundee. She has lately held the post of Sister to the Children's Ward at the York County Hospital.

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LORD THRING, in the course of his address to the students of St. Thomas's Hospital, described a Hospital as the noblest monument of human munificence, and more deserving of human gratitude than any other establishment he could imagine. He could not give students any professional advice, but he desired to urge them to perseverance in their professional studies. He told them what he considered led to success in life. Cicero had said that what was first was audacity; what was second was audacity; and what was third was audacity. He would like to say that for success in life what was first was perseverance; what was second was perseverance; and what was third was perseverance. He would say it deliberately that success always attended perseverance. Another secret of success was to be ever ready, watching, and hoping for an opportunity.

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MISS HELEN WEBB, Demonstrator of Anatomy at the London School of Medicine for Women, in addressing the students at the opening of the School, called attention to the significant fact that in recent years increasing importance had been given given to the position of preventive medicine. "Do not fall into the error of supposing," she remarked, "that the study of the symptoms of disease and their immediate cure is

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