

## British Medical Association.

### ROUND THE MUSEUM.

ONE of the most interesting exhibits at the Museum was an improved cachet for large doses of medicine, manufactured by the well-known Pharmaceutical Chemists, Messrs. Cooper & Co., Gloucester Road, South Kensington. The wafer is made in various colours, the name of the drug it contains being printed on each cachet. This firm also shows a number of very valuable forms of pastilles, and an excellent preparation of quinine, combined with salicylate which should prove very useful.

Warrick Bros.' Iron Jelloids are an excellent form of taking iron, and will find favour with doctors and Nurses alike.

The Bovril exhibit was in a good position, and their specialities received much attention—their invalid Beef Jelly finding favour for its good quality, and by reason of its being done up in glass jars. This firm issued special invitations to the members of the British Medical Association to visit their manufactory, of which several availed themselves, and could not fail to note the care taken in the preparation of this firm's excellent productions.

The Catley Abbey Natural Seltzer Water had no reason to be afraid to invite the profession to taste their Natural Seltzer Water, it being from a natural spring in Lincolnshire. It is attracting much attention at present, as it has proved of great value in cases of rheumatism.

Several other well-known firms showed exhibits up to their usual standard, and must, one and all, have been fully satisfied with the interest shown in them.

## Inventions, Preparations, &c.

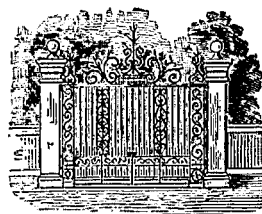
### VIYELLA.

A BOON alike to Nurses and patients will be found in a new cloth, called "Viyella," which is manufactured in many attractive forms. It might be described as a glorified flannel, having the advantages of this old-world material, with none of its disadvantages. It is *unshrinkable*, every piece being thoroughly shrunk by the manufacturers before it leaves their hands. "Viyella" is also pleasingly soft and warm to the feel, without being thick, close and heavy. It is most suitable for nightdresses for invalids, and all suffering from rheumatism and such complaints; also for Nurses, and those who are exposed to considerable variations of temperature. It is a most durable material, great care being taken in the manufacture, and as the

warp and weft are made of the same yarns, its wearing powers are thus increased. As it is made in endless variety of patterns and colourings—from natural colour and pure white to the latest art shades, with stripes or checks—it can be used to advantage for dressing gowns or jackets, blouses, petticoats, knickerbockers, summer costumes or children's frocks. An improvement on "Viyella" is a mixture of silk and merino, which the inventors call "Silkelle," and which will be found most useful and fascinating for night-dresses, and garments for invalids generally. "Viyella" is made in three substances, viz., heavy, medium and light, thus proving how suitable it is for all seasons and purposes. It can be obtained from all good drapers and hosiers at the moderate cost—considering all its advantages—of from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per yard.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



DR. E. WINIFRED DICKSON, in a paper recently read before the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, put very eloquently and forcibly the need there is for more women as Poor Law Guardians and the gains to the community in health,

sanitation and comfort brought about by women Guardians. And yet, to-day in Ireland, owing to the wording of an old Act, there are no women Guardians at all.

"In Ireland the Acts relating to Poor Law administration are different from those of England, and the fundamental Act—that of 1838—contains the words 'male person' in the description of the qualifications of a guardian. This expression was probably inserted quite inadvertently; it had not then dawned upon the minds of law-makers that women might want a share in administration. Standing as it does, however, it of course excludes women absolutely until a short amending clause can be put through Parliament. Several attempts have been made to pass such a clause. Last year a Bill was introduced by a Unionist member and was supported by nearly the whole Nationalist Party, but one member blocked it and it failed to become law. When one examines the duties of guardians it seems extraordinary that women should only of late years have taken up the work in England, and that they are not allowed to serve in this capacity in Ireland, for the management of the workhouse is in a very large measure a matter of household management, such as every woman is accustomed to perform or supervise in her own home. The average man does not pretend to be able to do housekeeping on a small scale—to look after the cooking of the food, the cleaning of the house, the clothing of the children, &c., that is usually conceded to lie outside his sphere. But incompetence to manage a small household seems to

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