demning specially the heavy linseed poultice, Dr. Dyer, in the Lancet, recommends in place of poultices "the old-fashioned and simple contrivance, the hot bran bag." He says it retains the heat for many hours if previously heated in the oven, and it imposes no heavy weight on the patient's chest.

"Leo," the celebrated dog belonging to the Cork Women and Children's Hospital, has been getting into trouble. The heroism and devotion he has always displayed in his persevering and philanthropic endeavours to collect money for the Hospital he is proud to belong to have stood him in good stead, and he has been acquitted by Mr. Justice O'Brien, before whose tribunal he was arraigned, without even so much as a stain on his character. "Leo" was charged with a mean attack on a little Now it is well known to the children and to the Nurses of the Hospital that Leo is much too chivalrous an Irish gentleman to attack anything small and defenceless, and a verdict of "Not guilty" was emphatically pronounced in the wards long before the case came into Court. "I wonder I wasn't accused of misappropriating the money I spend my time in collecting for the Hospital," said Leo, reproachfully, the while smarting at the fact of a dog of such eminent and irreproachable character being brought up in a police court—"like any common mongrel," he concluded. But the sympathy of the patients and staff will soon console Leo for the indignity to which he has been subjected.

The South Wimbledon District Nursing Association finds the distances their district Nurse has to go are very great, and that inevitable cabs form a heavy item in their expenditure; so they have intimated that they will be much indebted to any friend of the Association who will present them with a bicycle for use by the Nurse. It will soon be the regulation thing for every Nurse to add to her accomplishment the more or less graceful art of "wheeling." But who is coming forward to invent a special Nurse cyclist dress? We hope some woman with a taste for dress and a knowledge of uniforms will rise to the occasion, and come to the relief of wheeling Nurses who find the ordinary outdoor uniform a terrible handicap and a great danger to them in the performance of their rounds "on castors."

ONE of the Nurses engaged in nursing the small-pox patients at Gloucester met with an accident last week, which fortunately turned out not to be serious. She was starting in a trap on her morning rounds when the horse bolted in consequence of the harness breaking.

The trap was upset through coming into contact with an ash-box, and both Nurse and driver were thrown out. The Nurse was badly bruised and shaken, but is progressing well.

There have been several "rifts in the lute" and ructions among the forty Nurses who recently went out to Johannesburg. It seems as if several of the Nurses are bitterly disappointed that Johannesburg was not flowing with milk, honey and gold nuggets—all of which could easily be gathered without the trouble of working for them. This type of Nurse is not needed anywhere particularly, but she is still less required in the Colonies, where a certain amount of "roughing it" must be looked for and expected.

A Nurse Pepper has recently resigned her position in the Johannesburg Hospital. She states that her reasons for so doing were that her duties had been misrepresented to her in London by Miss Hicks. She came out on the understanding that she would receive promotion to the position of chief of the ward, and this position she saw little chance of obtaining. She wished to leave by April 1st. She offered to pay £50 in repayment of money advanced for her passage, &c.

It is quite certain that in such cases "promotion" is never definitely promised. It must always be conditional on conduct, success and opportunity.

At the meeting when Nurse Pepper's letter was read, Dr. Van Niekerk stated that the seeds of dissatisfaction were being sown among the lay Nurses by Dr. Rogers. He told them as a matter of fact that Dr. Van Niekerk had no right to have been sent to England to select the Nurses, as he was in favour of the Sisters, and was working in their favour. His influence was at the bottom of this letter.

"Messrs. Loewenstein & Co.," of Johannesburg, have decided that the difficulty experienced by the friends of sick persons when looking for a Nurse warrants the opening by them of a Register. They guarantee to keep a record of names, addresses and qualifications of Nurses. They also state that "they will ask no fee or remuneration either from Nurses or from the public."

It will be interesting to discover why the Messrs. Loewenstein put themselves to all this trouble and expense. We may be doing them an injustice, but the commercial gentlemen on the Rand are not accustomed to work on the lines of simple philanthropy.

previous page next page