

## Professional Review.

WE have received the second volume of "Masters of Medicine"—William Harvey, by Mr. D'Arcy Power, F.R.C.S., published by Messrs. T. Fisher Unwin, Paternoster Square; and we recommend all nurses to procure and read it. It is good for nurses to acquaint themselves with the lives of the great men of the Medical Profession, more especially of so great a genius as the discoverer of the circulation of the blood.

Bart.'s nurses, who are interested in the history of their hospital, will find much information concerning their Alma Mater in the records now published. We wonder if the charge, given to Harvey on the day of his election as physician to St. Bartholomew's, is still used when a physician is appointed. We read: "You shall not, for favour, lucre, or gain, appoint or write any thing for the poor, but such good and wholesome things as you shall think with your best advice will do the poor good, without any affection or respect to be had to the apothecary. And you shall take no gift or reward of any of the poor of this house for your counsel. This you will promise to do, as you shall answer before God, and as it becometh a faithful physician, whom you chiefly ought to serve in this vocation, is by God called unto; and for your negligence herein, if you fail, you shall render account."

Promotion came rapidly to Harvey, and he was appointed Physician-Extraordinary to James I. He continued his duties at St. Bartholomew's with some additional help, and his opinion on matters of administration was evidently of great weight with the authorities. In October, 1633, he brought forward certain articles to be observed by the staff, before the court of governors. Most of these were agreed to, but even in those days there were differences of opinion between medical men. Harvey, successfully in many ways, enforced his strong belief in the "superior status of the physicians," and it is interesting to observe that the surgeons, apparently without objecting, agreed that "No Chirurgion, or his man, do trepan the head, pierce the body, dismember (amputate), or do any great operation on the body of any, but with the approbation and by the direction of the Doctor (when conveniently it may be had), and the Chirurgions shall think needful to require." This regulation, as well as an even more peremptory one, "That no Chirurgion, or his man, practise by giving inward physic to the poor without the approbation of the Doctor," seems to have been agreed to by the surgeons of the day without a murmur, but even they protested against another regulation proposed by Dr. Harvey—"That every Chirurgion shall show and declare unto the Doctor whensoever he shall in the presence of the patient require him, what he findeth and what he useth to every external malady; that so the Doctor, being informed, may better with judgment order his prescriptions."

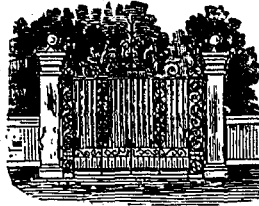
It is interesting also to notice that the duties of the Matron and Sisters were clearly defined, and that they were required to "attend the Doctor when he sitteth to give directions and prescriptions"; it was also one of their duties to "signify and complain to the Doctor if any poor lurk in the house, and come not before the Doctor when he sitteth, or taketh not his physic, but cast it away and abuse it."

Space forbids us to quote at greater length from this interesting book, but we have, we hope, said enough to induce our readers to procure and read it for themselves.

## Outside the Gates.

## WOMEN.

## NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.



A Union having been formed among the chief Societies in England and Scotland which work for Women's Suffrage as their sole object, it has been thought desirable by the Executive Committee of the Union to state briefly the policy which they intend to

pursue. They will promote by every means in their power, session after session, the introduction of a Bill into the House of Commons, to remove the electoral disabilities of women. Failing the possibility of obtaining a day for a Bill, they will urge their friends in Parliament to take the sense of the House of Commons by resolution.

The second reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill was carried in the House of Commons on February 3rd, 1897, by a majority of 71: and not only by a majority of the House, but by a majority of each party present and voting. This fact places the question of Women's Suffrage in a new phase, and its friends have only to continue to press it upon the attention of Parliament and the public in order to render it necessary at no distant date that it should be dealt with by the Government of the day.

This has been the history of nearly all important measures of reform. They have very rarely been placed on the Statute Book by private members; but private members by repeatedly bringing a particular question before the House, give the opportunity for its full consideration by Parliament and the country, so that in due time it takes its place as a Government measure. It will be the aim of the Union to place Women's Suffrage in this position, so that no Government, of whatever party, shall be able to touch questions relating to the representation without at the same time removing the electoral disabilities of women.

The following Societies have already joined the Union; the Executive Committee is formed of delegates from each Society represented:—Central and East of England Society for Women's Suffrage, 10, Great College Street, Westminster; Central and Western Society for Women's Suffrage, 39, Victoria Street, S.W.; North of England Society for Women's Suffrage, Manchester; Edinburgh National Society for Women's Suffrage; Bristol and West of England Society for Women's Suffrage; Birmingham Women's Suffrage Society; Cambridge Women's Suffrage Society; Liverpool Women's Suffrage Society; Birkenhead and Wirral Women's Suffrage Society; Nottingham Women's Suffrage Society; Leicester Women's Suffrage Society.

The Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, wife of the Grand Duke Serge Alexandrovitch, is seriously ill from measles at the Chateau of Ilinkoskoe, near Moscow. The Grand Duchess Elizabeth is a sister of the Empress of Russia, and a grand-daughter of the

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