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EDITED BY MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.

No. 626.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

VOL. XXIV.

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**Editorial.**

HOSPITAL EXPERIMENTS.

A TERRIBLE story of loss of life, due to an error in the strength of a dose of a new remedy for osteomalacia, comes from the Cracow University in Austria. As our readers are aware osteomalacia, a disease resulting in softening of the bones, and consequently of the bony pelvis, is much more common in Austria than in this country, and further, that women are more frequently affected by it than men, and the course of labour is frequently prejudicially affected by it. A remedy for the disease has long been sought, and experiments with a new drug named colchicite, a preparation made from the poisonous meadow saffron, were authorized by Professor Kuczynski, head of the Clinical Institute at Cracow. Instead of the injections being made by the First Assistant, the task of giving them was confided by him to a medical student, and it is supposed that, by an error, the dose given was ten times too strong. When the Professor heard of the catastrophe one patient was dead, two were dying, and four were in a dangerous condition. A judicial investigation of the circumstances has been ordered. This fatality occurring at a time

**Contents.**

EDITORIAL ... ..	245
ANNOTATIONS ... ..	246
THE NURSING OF HEART DISEASES ... ..	248
MEDICAL MATTERS ... ..	249
APPOINTMENTS; ARMY NURSING NOTES ... ..	250
THE WELSH HOSPITAL FOR SOUTH AFRICA ... ..	252
FOR QUEEN AND COUNTRY ... ..	252
A CASUAL REPLY ... ..	253
THE PASSING BELL; THE MIDWIVES' BILL ... ..	254
NURSING ECHOES ... ..	256
REFLECTIONS ... ..	257
THE HOSPITAL WORLD; OUR FOREIGN LETTER ... ..	258
PREPARATIONS, INVENTIONS, ETC. ... ..	260
OUTSIDE THE GATES ... ..	261
A BOOK OF THE WEEK ... ..	261
DRAMATIC NOTES ... ..	262
POEM; WHAT TO READ; COMING EVENTS ... ..	262
CORRESPONDENCE ... ..	263
NOTICES; COMMENTS AND REPLIES ... ..	264

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)