What I intended to suggest in my essay was a general culture in preparation for the future work, rather than an actual preparation for nursing; and in that general culture I considered elementary anatomy, physiology, botany, &c., should be included, for which I think the following books would be found useful, although no doubt there are many others equally good, and possibly better, but of those I cannot speak from actual experience:—"Elementary Physiology: Health in the House," by C. M. Buckton; "Elements of Animal Physiology," by John Angell; "Elementary Lessons in Physiology," by Huxley (this should be read after the atheres a birry and actually Two read after the others, as being more advanced). Two small books published by the St. John's Ambulance Association, one called "Anatomical and Physiological Outlines," and the other, "Nursing Text Book" both of them excellent in their way—would be found very useful to beginners; also "A Handbook of Nursing," by Catherine J. Wood.

For the study of botany I can suggest nothing better for beginners than "Flowers of the Field," Rev. C. A. Johns, supplemented by Hooker's "British Flora," or "Wild Flowers," by Anne Pratt. Or, if anyone is fortunate enough to possess it, "Sowerby's English Botany" is a charming book; but it consists

of several volumes and is very expensive.

I wish I could do as my enquirer does, and hide myself behind what would be the suitable synonym of "Ignoramus," but unfortunately for me I am obliged to answer in my own name-that of

M. C. Lock.

VACANT APPOINTMENTS, WANTED, &c.

CHARGE NIGHT NURSE.—Salary £27.—Apply at once to the Matron, BLACKBURN & EAST LANCASHIRE INFIRMARY.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSING.—Salary £75.—Applications and copies of three recent testimonials to be sent on or before June 16th to the Secretary, QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT for Sheffield Nurses' Home and Training Institution.—Sa'ary £70.—Applications and testimonials to be sent on or before June 11th to H. P. Marsh, Hon. Sec., Broomgrove House, Sheffield.

NURSE.—Salary £22.—Apply to the Hon. Sec., MILLER HOSPITAL AND ROYAL KENT DISPENSARY, Greenwich.

NURSE.—Salary £22.—Apply, Matron, WEST HERTS INFIRMARY, Hemel Hempstead.

NIGHT NURSE.—Apply to the Matron, WEST HERTS INFIRMARY, Hemel Hempstead.

NURSES (for Glasgow Sick Poor and Private Nursing Association).—Apply, Mrs. Higginbotham, Supt. Gen., 220, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

NURSES (three).—Salary £25.—Apply to the Matron, ROYAL ALBERT HOSPITAL, Devonport.

 $N^{URSES.-Apply}$ to the Matron, BRISTOL ROYAL INFIRMARY.

SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSES at the WORK-HOUSE HOSPITALS, Withington,—Salary £50.—Applications, endorsed Superintendent of Nurses, to be delivered before 10 a.m. on June 15th to W. N. Edgill, Clerk to Guardians, Union Offices, All June 15th to W. N. I Saints', Manchester.

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A Book of the value of One Guinea will be awarded for the best Essay on-

"Describe the relative positions of the Sister, Staff Nurse, and Probationer, and what their hours of duty and work should severally be in a properly organised ward of thirty beds." RULES.

1 .- Contributions must reach the Editor, at the office of THE NURSING RECORD, not later than June 9th, 1888, addressed as follows, "Prize Essay Competition, THE NURSING RECORD, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C."

2.-Manuscript must be written distinctly in ink, and on one side of the paper only, upon not less than 24 or more than 30 pages of ordinary-sized ruled sermon paper. The pages must be numbered and fastened together.

3.—The real and full name and address (stating whether Miss or Mrs.) of the Competitor must be inscribed on the back of each contribution, and notification of which hospital or institution the Competitor has been or is attached to.

4.—Trained nurses or those personally associated with nursing work only allowed to compete.

The decision of the Prize Essay Editor to be final, and any infringement of the above rules will be considered a

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