

opportunity of answering it." We have inquired from Miss FISHER, and learn that the letter she sent to the Governors on February 27th, was the second one which she sent to us, and which appeared in our columns on March 9th. Consequently, Mr. BUXTON made a most inaccurate statement on March 1st. We know the London Hospital Managers too well, now, to expect Mr. BUXTON to apologise. But we should like to ask him how it came to pass that he knew this letter was "cut from the NURSING RECORD," and yet had never seen it, nor had an opportunity of answering it.

The Governors of the London Hospital must have had a merry meeting on March 1st. The Chairman of the Committee made assertions so very inaccurate, that two of his colleagues were compelled to contradict them, and then the Treasurer made a statement, the truth of which he himself contradicted in the very same breath.

PATENT POISONS.

THE Pharmaceutical Society is doing good service in taking up the question of the right of grocers to sell patent medicines; and whatever may be the ultimate result of its proceedings from a legal point of view, the rectitude of its position is undoubted from a moral one. On behalf of the defendants, grocers, it was pleaded that if the case went against them, "a vast number of patent medicines would have to be sold only by chemists and druggists, and marked 'poison.'" Truly a most desirable result to achieve this, for the ease with which unwanted babies can be slowly done to death on somebody's "Cordial," and the light-hearted ignorance with which people buy "poisons" for trivial pains that self-denial would quickly cure, and the recklessness with which they dose themselves for serious maladies, where even the highest skill is sometimes inadequate, are simply appalling. It is exceedingly necessary that a very sharp line should be drawn between the sale of food and the sale of drugs, if only to combat the wide-spread notion that medicine is in some sort of food, and can be substituted for it. The more valuable the drug as a medicine, the more disastrous as a food. The more potent the "poison" in disease, the more deadly its action in health; and yet in spite of this we have known of foolish young women who have systematically taken chlorodyne to lull a healthy appetite "for fear of getting fat," and arsenic to secure a white complexion. Of course Nature punishes them severely enough. But temptations to ignorant folly should be minimized, especially in the matter of drugs. Besides, there is another point of view that cannot in common justice be overlooked.

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The chemist and druggist has to qualify for his position as seller of drugs; and it seems very hard that his legitimate trade should be usurped by one who possesses none of these qualifications, but under cover of a patent medicine, is selling powerful and dangerous drugs which, at the least, should only be procurable through one whose diploma gives some guarantee that he knows what he is selling. If grocers are to be allowed to sell medicine, they should be obliged to qualify for the privilege in the same way as the chemist and druggist does. But even then the combining of the sale of food and drugs remains bad in principle, and injurious in practice.

Dispensing for Nurses.

By C. J. S. THOMPSON.

Author of "The Best Thing to Do," etc., etc.

— PART II. —

(Continued from page 124.)

NUMERALS.—The cardinal numbers are:—  
 unus, one; duo, two; trio, three; quatur, four; quinque, five; sex, six; septem, seven; octo, eight; novem, nine; decim, ten; undecim, eleven; duodecim, twelve; etc., etc. To express the fractional part of a number, an ordinal is used, as primus, first; secundus, second; tertius, third; etc.

Numeral adverbs:—simil, once; bis, twice; ter, thrice or three times; quater, four times; quintus, five times, etc.

The following are some phrases employed as directions:—

As usually written.	Latin.	Translation.
Capt̄i bis die.	Capiat unciam bis die	Let an ounce (two tablespoonfuls) be taken twice a day
Coch i mag sec hor.	Cochlearia duo magna secundis horis	(Let) two tablespoonfuls (be taken) every two hours
Capt̄ coch ii ampla om: hor:	Capiat cochlearia duo ampla omni horâ	Take two tablespoonfuls every hour
Capt̄ii mag stat iter p. hor.	Capiat cochlearia duo magna statim iterentur pat horam	Take two tablespoonfuls immediately, to be repeated in an hour

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