

THE now historical case of *Kitson v. Playfair* is still to bear issues in the greater stress that has since been laid on medical etiquette between doctor and patient. In presenting the scholarships, prizes, and medals to the students of Charing-Cross Hospital, Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams, after congratulating the recipients, said "there was a considerable affinity between law and medicine. Both professions required from their members the exercise of very good discretion, and were the recipients of confidences which, he supposed, no one would like to intrust to anybody except to his doctor or his lawyer. Both professions might proudly boast that the public had no cause to complain that their confidences had been misplaced."

It was not the time nor the occasion for Mr. Justice Williams to point out—though we may venture to do so at all times—that a similar code of honour and etiquette must prevail between Nurse and patient as that claimed for between doctor and patient. This attitude, of course, we all recognise in theory, but its habitual practice is found to be a tax on the Nurses' caution and conversation more often than a test of her good faith and good intentions. Nurses must learn to take it for granted, rather than to boast, that "confidences are not misplaced."

IN all the New York City Hospitals (that is, the Hospitals which are supported out of the city rates) the male attendants wear a uniform consisting of a single-breasted blue blouse and a blue cap. The men cooks employed in these Hospitals wear double-breasted white duck coats and the conventional white apron and high hat of the professional cook.

WITH reference to the fact that it has often been found that appendicitis was due to the lodging in the intestine of an orange pip, or some similar foreign body, an American paper has produced the following up-to-date version of a familiar fable:—

"Pooh!"

The Fox had wearied himself in vain to get at the grapes.

"They'll only give me——"

He turned away with affected composure.

——"Appendicitis!"

Thus solacing his soul he solemnly stalked off.

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
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Medical Matters.

CONSUMPTION AND ITS PREVENTION.



ONE of the problems that will always occupy the mind of the medical profession is the prevention or cure of Consumption. In a recent lecture on this subject, the speaker pointed out to his audience that the two great agents in carrying the infection were the expectation of consumptive patients and the milk of cows suffering from tubercle. The methods for combating these evils must be systematic. In the first case, the bacillus in the expectation must be destroyed before it becomes dry and pulverised, while careful supervision of cattle, inspection of milk, and the boiling of milk before use, are the only measures which counteract the second factor. It has often been remarked that heredity is not so potent a factor as is popularly believed, and that the facts justify a more hopeful feeling regarding families in which consumption occurs. Great stress is at the present day always laid on the virtues of fresh air and sunlight, and it should always be remembered that, as in the case of all other communicable diseases, the prevention of consumption requires the intelligent co-operation of the public with the medical profession.

THE PRINCIPLES OF DIETETICS.

THOSE who have important work to do, whether mental, physical, or both, should always consider their methods of feeding as entitled to careful attention. Just as no machine can work well unless it is properly and regularly supplied with good fuel, so no human organism can be relied upon to do its duties unless its vital necessities are carefully looked after. Even in ancient times, dietetics were admitted to be of the greatest importance. In disease, everyone knows—but no one more appreciates it than a good Nurse—how much depends upon the feeding of the patients, and if people would only pay more attention to the diet in health, much sickness might be avoided. There are four golden rules which ought to be observed by all engaged in harassing duties—variety in diet, the avoidance of indigestible

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