

Sketches.

OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

Sister to little patient: "Do you know what great man has just died?"

Little Girl (glibly): "Yes. Mr. Gladstone; I know all about him, he was drowned."

Sister: "Drowned!"

Little Girl: "Yes; I know that's right. He went out in a boat, and got drowned. I saw it on the placards—'Mr. Gladstone sinking fast.'"

The Teleelectroscope.

As the present century rushes on to its close, discoveries pour in thick and fast, until we become bewildered by the demands made upon our comprehension. It is not twenty years ago since the crudest exhibition of electric light caused the greatest excitement. Now we are behind the times if our houses are not lighted, and our meals cooked by this process. The marvels of electric light have paled before the more recent discoveries, and even the X rays and the cinematograph are becoming every-day wonders. The latest marvel is the teleelectroscope which, however, will not be seen in England for some two or three years, as its inventor, Herr Szczepanik, has disposed of the French rights of the patent to the Directors of the Paris Exhibition of 1900, for the sum of 6,000,000 francs, and has arranged with the directors not to part with the rights of it until after the Exhibition is over.

If all that is claimed for the teleelectroscope is borne out by fact, and proved to be of practical value, succeeding generations will wonder how we, at the end of the nineteenth century, managed to live with so imperfect and clumsy a method of communicating with our fellows at a distance as that afforded by telegraphic communication. A free translation of the word teleelectroscope may be given as "to view by means of amber objects from afar," and by connecting the new instrument, with the electrophone it will be possible to reproduce public functions, theatrical performances, etc., in their entirety; the teleelectroscope conveying a picture to the eye, and the electrophone sound to the ear. But the most useful function of the new invention, at least to an editor—will be that his productions can at once be photographed, and one page can be sent from London, straight into the compositors' room in Edinburgh, and set up in type, while he is writing the second page. The convenience afforded by such a possibility is difficult to over estimate, and we look forward, with feelings of the keenest interest to the first public exposition of this invention at the Paris Exhibition.

Nursing Echoes.

*** All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



MISS ELLEN MUSSON has gained the highest number of marks in the recent final examination at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and has therefore gained the Gold Medal of her year.

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A STUDENT at St. George's Hospital has written to the *Gazette* complaining that he had just finished examining a case in one of the wards when the patient drank his beef tea he sat on the next empty bed reading the notes of the case. (N.B., we presume the half-crown fine imposed in some hospitals for sitting on a bed is not enforced at St. George's.) On leaving the ward at five minutes to twelve he was told that he would have to go out then, as he had no business in the wards at that hour. The editor of the *Gazette* would "like to know" by whose authority such a statement was made. Everyone, he holds, has free access to the wards, though natural feelings prompt the medical staff to abstain from disturbing the patients at unreasonable hours.

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THE important part played by diet in the recovery of patients is becoming more and more recognized, and usually, house surgeons and physicians are quick to recognize that if their patients are to be satisfactorily nursed, it is necessary that the wards should be vacated, so that their meals may be served in an appetizing manner, and other nursing duties may be attended to. It is usually junior students who transgress—no doubt from excessive zeal to perform their own duties thoroughly—but it is important that they should realize that there is a "time for everything," and that in the interests of the patients it cannot be permitted that beef tea, soiled dressings, and other evidences of surgical work shall be promiscuously mixed on the same locker, as is apt to happen if there is not some rule with regard to students. The lesson which they learn from the enforcement of such a rule, is, in our opinion, of quite as much value as that which they gain from reading the notes of a case.

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TRAINED nurses have so often to run the gauntlet of adverse criticism, that it is refreshing to record an appreciation of the services of the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)