

teurs, who must report also to the police any fact which appears to them to be suspicious of foul play, or even of neglect. The appointment of such officials in this country would undoubtedly be welcomed by the medical profession, whom it would relieve of an onerous and responsible duty—the certification of deaths, which the State at present exacts from them without the slightest remuneration—and it would provide at once an absolute protection against the possibility of premature burial.

HOMMEL'S HÆMATOGEN.

It is a charge which is often brought against English doctors that all their medicines are "nasty." It is certainly a fact that until very recent times no attempt was made in this country to render pleasant to the eye or palatable to the taste the many drugs which are admittedly useful in the treatment of disease, but the majority of which are horribly nauseous. They manage these things much better in France, where nearly every medicine is compounded in the form of syrup, wafer, or wine, and it is almost a pleasure to be drugged. Perhaps the explanation is simple. In continental countries, medical men patent these preparations, and are more, rather than less, esteemed in consequence; whereas, in England a doctor who took such a step would be probably sent to Coventry by his *confrères*. So far as the public are concerned the foreign system certainly has great advantages. We are especially led to make these observations at the present moment because medical men in this country are now employing Dr. Hommel's Hæmatogen to a considerable extent. It is a German patent, and consists of concentrated and purified Hæmoglobin; in fact, it is an ideal "blood-maker." It has for many years been used abroad, and the leading physicians of Germany and France speak in the highest terms of its value. In cases in which it has been tried in England it has proved to promote the appetite, improve the general condition, and assist digestion in a remarkable degree. Cases of anæmia and of neurasthenia have been especially benefited by this preparation, and when it is added that it has a very pleasant taste, and is taken well by children and those with impaired digestive powers, its usefulness will be apparent to all. Hommel's Hæmatogen can be obtained through any chemist, and we doubt not will secure a well-merited meed of popularity amongst English practitioners.

Nursing Politics.

HOBSON'S CHOICE.

Few who have attended the "cock-pit" meetings of the Royal British Nurses' Association during the past four years, can ever forget the inflated attitude assumed by the chairman, Sir James Crichton Browne, whenever he was met by an unanswerable argument against his high-handed and most irregular proceedings. Then he would arise, and, flushing like a peony, he would close all arguments by shouting in the rich dialect of Dumfriesshire:—"I order—r—r it."

As all the world knows, this irascible little gentleman and his friends have "order—r—red it" once too often for the patience of the self-respecting members. Since the New Bye-Laws were thrust by the former on the latter, the Royal British Nurses' Association has suffered an irreparable loss by the resignations of the large majority of the most influential members. These ladies decline any longer to be "order—r—red" by Sir James Crichton Browne and his supporters.

THE resignations of some thirty Hospital Matrons were received at the office of the Association some three months ago; but we gather that they were only brought to the knowledge of the Executive Committee on the 7th inst. The following characteristic cyclo-styled letter has now been received by the resigning Matrons:—

ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

17, OLD CAVENDISH STREET, OXFORD STREET,
LONDON, W.

October 19th, 1898.

DEAR MADAM,—I am directed to inform you that your resignation was placed before the Meeting of the Executive Committee on the 7th inst., and ordered to be accepted. I am also directed to request that you will be good enough to remit the amount of your subscription, five shillings, due on January 1st of this year.

I am, yours faithfully,
G. A. LEIGH,
Acting Secretary of the Corporation.

WE commend the wording of this epistle to those few Matrons of any standing who retain their connection with the Association. Leading members of the Royal British Nurses' Association give weighty and dignified reasons why they decline any longer to be associated with Sir James Crichton Browne and his coadjutors, or to submit to the insults to which the Matron members of the Association have been subjected. But it will be observed that no reply is attempted,

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