

Mr. Robert Stroyan, who died lately at Johannesburg, has bequeathed £2,000 to the Norwich Hospital, £10,000 to the Johannesburg Hospital, and £100 to Kelly's Home.

Whatever else is scarce, there is no lack of doctors. "The Medical Register" for 1899 shows how the faculty in numbers grows and grows. During the ten years 1881-90 the average yearly rate of increase was 2.7 per cent., while in the eight years 1891-8 it was 2.1 per cent. The number was 23,275 in 1881, 29,555 in 1891, and 35,057 in 1898. The proportion of names on the "Medical Register" to the population of the United Kingdom was, in 1881, one medical practitioner to 1,514 persons living, in 1891 one to 1,289, and in 1898 one to 1,157.

No wonder Harley Street and the vicinity is remarkable for the "monkeries," as the houses which display a regular eruption of door plates are now named.

No work is more necessary, or more peculiarly that for women in happier circumstances to take up, than that amongst the Purdah Women in India. These women prefer to remain ill, or to die, rather than see a male doctor. A sale of work for providing a dispensary for Purdah women in Jaunpur was recently held by Mrs. C. Greenwood, at her house, at 37, Philbeach Gardens, with the result that £60, the entire sum needed to complete the amount required, was cleared. The sale was held in connection with the London Loving Service Union, of which Miss Mary Greenwood is Hon. Secretary for London.

Inquiries having been made respecting the application of the new Vaccination Act in the army, it has been decided that the unvaccinated wife or family of a soldier must not be allowed to be brought into contact with troops or with other families of soldiers in such a way as to jeopardise their health. The unvaccinated wife or family, in such a case, would therefore not be allowed to live in barracks, nor would they be conveyed to any foreign station at the public expense.

At the instance of the Empress of Russia, Privy Councillor Galkin Vraszkoi and Baron Buxhoevden will proceed on the 13th inst. to the famine-stricken provinces, in order to institute an inquiry into the extent of the prevailing distress, and to take prompt means for its alleviation. Her Majesty has given 50,000 roubles from her privy purse for the benefit of her sufferers.

Bright red spectacles accompanied by internal doses of calomel form a new German specific against sea-sickness. It is deduced from Epstein's investigations on the influence of color on the blood-vessels in the brain. Sea-sickness is due to lack of blood in the brain, while red sends blood to the brain with a rush. By looking at one point for some time through the red glasses the patient is cured radically.

Professional Review.

GOLDEN RULES OF MEDICAL PRACTICE.

We have before us the fourth of the "Golden Rule" Series of booklets. "Golden Rules of Medical Practice." By Arthur Henry Evans, M.D., B.S. (Lond), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) Published by Messrs. John Wright and Co., Bristol, and Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent and Co., Limited, London. Price 1s.

Nurses will do well to remember the following of these rules:—

"Remember the tendency of the patient to collapse when the abdomen is being tapped; aspirate slowly and, by means of a many tailed flannel bandage around the abdomen, which is gradually tightened, keep up pressure upon the abdominal contents."

"Before tapping an abdomen, and immediately before any operation on the abdomen, pass a catheter and empty the bladder."

"Remember that young children cannot expectorate; retained secretion, evidenced by the presence of numerous râles and duskiness of the face is best got rid of by giving an emetic (a tablespoonful of vinum ipecacuanhæ)."

"Of bad prognostic import in coma, the result of cerebral hæmorrhage are: Persistence or deepening of the coma during the second and third days, rapid rise of temperature after the initial fall, a pulse below 60 or above 120, and the rapid formation of bedsores."

"Before despairing of a child, the subject of intractable diarrhoea and vomiting, try feeding with the white of an egg in four or five ounces of cold water; egg albumen differs from other albuminous food stuffs in that, it does not require any peptonizing process to fit it for absorption, but is absorbed unchanged."

"Vomiting which has no relation to the intaking of food, which is effortless and unaccompanied by nausea, suggests a cerebral cause."

"If possible, always apply leeches where pressure can subsequently be employed to stop the bleeding."

"Remember, that in the majority of patients complaining of 'something wrong with their hearts,' the stomach is the seat of the trouble."

In enteric fever, "remember that sometimes in adults and frequently in children, the characteristic rash is not present."

"Remember that hæmorrhage or perforation may be the first symptom of enteric fever—the latent or ambulatory type."

"Remember, that of those whose pulse rate exceeds 140, 80 per cent. die."

"Never refuse water to a febrile patient, since there is no condition of fever in which it can do any harm, and in most febrile states it is positively beneficial."

"Remember that the most marked cases of emaciation are found in association with disease of the pancreas."

"It should be remembered that for the normal colouration of the stools, the presence in the intestines of the pancreatic secretion is as necessary as is that of the bile. The absence of either leads to the stools becoming clay coloured." The book is full of pithy points of a similar nature, and nurses may gain many useful hints from its perusal.

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