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### LECTURES TO NURSES ON ANTISEPTICS IN SURGERY.

BY  
STANMORE BISHOP,

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### Editorial.

#### AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

A TRIAL of great importance to the governing bodies of hospitals, and one which they will do well to note, has recently taken place in New York. The case was that of *Ward v. St Vincent's Hospital*, and was first heard in April last, when a judgment was given in the defendant's favour. This has now been reversed by the first appellate division of the Supreme Court of New York. The action was one to recover damages, because of an alleged breach of contract on the part of the defendant to furnish the plaintiff with a skilled and competent trained nurse. The court held the contract binding, and that it was one which the hospital had certainly power to make. Although a charity hospital it had its "pay" side, and was in the habit of furnishing private rooms, and nurses, to well-to-do people for a full price. Therefore the court held that the plaintiff was entitled to damages for the breach of that specific and valid contract, as much as if the action had been for negligence, pure and simple. In either case the plaintiff was entitled to an adequate indemnity for her injuries. The court considered that there was ample evidence

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