

three latter diseases appear to be among the eruptions most frequently associated with evidence of intestinal putrefaction, and it is quite possible that many such cases may be directly due to this form of autointoxication. Probably the cutaneous diseases most often associated with an excessive indicanuria are dermatitis herpetiformis, and pompholyx, and the therapeutic achievements obtained, particularly in cases of dermatitis herpetiformis, when treatment is directed to the indicanuria, has at last been very encouraging. All the cases of prurigo that I have ever had under observation have been accompanied with very severe intestinal putrefaction. In some instances this has been of the proteolytic type, while others have presented the saccharolytic form. The patients all improved under appropriate treatment. Whenever indicanuria or other evidence of intestinal putrefaction is present in cases of obstinate or relaxing eczema it should receive prompt and careful attention. I have seen several cases of this kind that resisted all therapeutic measures until a marked indicanuria was cleared up. Psoriasis is occasionally associated with an indicanuria, but less frequently than in the case of many other cutaneous eruptions. Further study may modify this observation. Without going into further details, it may be said that, as a result of the frequency with which the cutaneous diseases are found to be associated with evidence of intestinal putrefaction, and in view of the fact that the therapeutic results have been so encouraging, this form of autointoxication should most certainly receive very careful attention. Not only should we consider the enterogenic poisons as direct etiological factors, but we must realise that it is possible for them to play a contributory rôle—that is, they may produce an exaggeration of the symptoms, or they may be the means of a continuance of the symptoms after the more recognised causes have disappeared.

(To be continued.)

A well-known Matron has recently been pointing out the difficulty of teaching young nurses the principles of aseptic surgery, owing to the want of uniformity in the details of preparation required by different surgeons. A further difficulty is met with in connection with women engaged in private nursing (though not necessarily trained nurses) many of whom do not understand the fundamental principles which underlie their work, though they may blindly follow out some rule of thumb method.

Progress of State Registration.

Great activity has been evinced by the Registrationists during the past week. On Friday, 17th, a most successful Public Meeting was held at the Medical Society's Rooms, London, W., at which Miss Isla Stewart presided, when the two Resolutions which appeared in the agenda of the meeting in last week's issue, were passed unanimously, and it was agreed to send them to his Majesty's Ministers, and to the members of the House of Lords.

Then the Matrons' Council at three days' notice obtained the signatures to a letter, of many of the most talented women, in every branch of social and political work—which appeared in full in the *Times* on Monday morning, and has already been aptly described as the "Letter of All the Talents." It will be found in our correspondence column. Considering the short time at the disposal of the Matrons' Council, the response was remarkable, and trained nurses are to be congratulated that they have behind their demand for State organisation the sympathy and support of the leaders of so many powerful organisations of women, whose names stand for all that is best in our social life.

The Matrons of many Poor Law Infirmaries, upon the initiative of Miss Barton, of Chelsea, have also taken steps to bring the interests of Poor Law Nurses to the fore, as they are of opinion that the system of State Registration proposed in our Bill would be of especial value to nurses in the Poor Law Infirmary Training Schools, who have hitherto worked at an undeserved disadvantage. They consider that such a measure would tend to attract to this most important branch of the profession well educated and suitable candidates, and would do much to ensure the proper nursing of the sick poor in these institutions.

WELCOME HELP.

We acknowledge with thanks as Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, the following most welcome Donations towards the Nurses' Registration Bill expenses:—

	£	s.	d.
Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League	1	11	6
Dr. F. Foord-Caiger	1	1	0
Miss Elma Smith	1	1	0
Miss S. Villiers	1	1	0
Miss Edith C. Busteed	1	1	0
The Lady Hermione Blackwood	1	0	0
Mrs. Wates	10	6	

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