

at the Kimberley Hospital. Amongst the Staff Nurses, for whom this is the final examination, Miss Evelyn Smith has won the first prize given by Dr. Smith, having 1,987 marks out of a possible total of 2,500. Miss Robinson has taken the second prize, given by Dr. Symonds, she having a total of 1,783 marks. Miss Smith has also won Dr. Callender's prize for a special paper and *viva voce* examination. Miss Levinge Swift has honourable mention for an excellent paper on a Nurse's duties in a private house and on surgery; Miss Robinson for her papers on Disinfection, Physiology, and Medicine; also Miss Smith for Medicine and *Materia Medica*; and Sister Louisa Jane for Physiology. Of the pupils, Miss Mainwaring gained Dr. Smith's prize for the highest number of marks, having 1,965 out of a possible 2,500. Miss Jollie obtained Dr. Mackenzie's second prize, having 1,845 marks. Miss Paul obtained honourable mention for her paper on Medicine; Miss Veale for an excellent paper on Anatomy and another on Hygiene and Practical Nursing. Miss Gladwin gained Dr. Callender's prize for *viva voce*. The lecturers, as before, were Dr. Callender, Dr. McKenzie, and Sister Henrietta."

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THE comments of the *Diamond Fields Advertiser*—which, by the way, has an excellently-written and readable leading article of two columns upon the all-important subject of Registration—are as follows:—"It will easily be seen that this represents a considerable amount of good hard work on the part of learners and teachers, and the Nurses have shown an ardent desire to make their work as professional and as intelligent as they can, by learning the whys and wherefores, the dangers to human life of mistakes, or neglect of precautions, the business-like and scientific side, as well as the practical part of it. It is a pity that the entire absence of legal protection leaves the most skilled and accomplished Nurse in exactly the same position as the immortal Sarah Gamp still occupies; and also that the public in engaging Nurses have no recognised legal standard by which they can discover whether the person on whom they depend in the most anxious moments of their lives to be obedient, capable and skilful is a properly Trained Nurse or an impostor. It is much to be hoped that the day is not far distant in the colony when nursing will be a recognised profession, and the same protection given both to employers and employed that can be claimed for other professions."

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THIS month's *Work and Leisure*, so ably edited by L. M. H., and published by Mr. F. Kirby,

17, Bouverie Street, has reached me, and it is full of interesting practical reading. An article, entitled "The Difficulty of Adding to my Income," is a brilliant exposure of several of the *sham* methods of earning money, so frequently advertised nowadays. S. G.

WOMEN AND THEIR WORK.

CIVIL SERVICE CLERKSHIPS.

CIVIL SERVICE clerks work under Government, and are in fact servants of the nation, and paid by the nation also. Under this heading are included telegraph clerks and post-office clerks and sorters, but as I have written in previous numbers on both of these employments, I will now only refer to the ordinary clerkships (female). These lady clerks are employed in H. M. Government's various offices, the work being purely clerical in its nature. The office hours are from ten to five, except Saturdays, when they are from ten to one. These appointments, which are much sought after, are not given through interest, but are to be obtained by open competitive examinations, conducted by the Civil Service Commissioners. The examinations are usually held twice a year; there is one during this month, and the next will be held about the first week in April next. The subjects are writing, orthography, arithmetic, English composition, history, and geography. There are about one hundred and twenty vacancies annually, but the year ending September, 1890, there were one hundred and twenty-five. Of course there are many candidates—over six hundred once for one examination—and equally of course they could not all pass. The competition is very keen, and it needs good abilities, good instruction, and hard work to succeed. The age is limited to twenty years. There are as many as five hundred and twenty-four second-class clerks, whose salaries range from £65 to £80 per annum; first-class clerks receive from £85 to £110 per annum; principal clerks, a salary from £120 to £170; assistant-superintendents and superintendents from £200 to £400; but promotion is of necessity very slow, though sure. Pensions are given in case of unfitness for work after ten years, and the employment is of itself light, agreeable, and ladylike. Especially is it in favour with those young ladies who love the pen better than the needle, and they are legion in this age of scribes. There are several gentlemen who advertise as Civil Service teachers, and also schools and institutes where classes are held for preparation for the examinations; amongst the latter are Queen's College, and the Civil Service College,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)