

advertisement column, securely packed in a box, must be addressed to "Nursing Record Special Prize Competition, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C." It must be delivered not later than Saturday, August 1, next. The manufacturers have kindly undertaken to teach the winner (free of any charge) how to work and use the machine. The machine is on view and can be seen any day from ten to twelve at the Vertical Feed Sewing Machine Company, 24, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

### NURSING ECHOES.

\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

I AM very glad to learn that His Grace the Duke of Westminster has given a donation of £100, and has also raised his annual subscription to £20, in support of the large amount of new and useful work in the suburbs of London and the country which the National Health Society is undertaking in the form of lectures amongst the poor on



"Cottage Dinners and How to Cook Them,"  
"How to Make the Home Healthy and Happy,"  
"Nursing the Sick," "First Aid in Accidents,"  
"Words to Mothers," &c.

I OUGHT to have mentioned in our last issue, and have very great pleasure in doing so now, that Miss Elizabeth A. Wilkinson, of the Hospital for Women and Children, Leeds, has been appointed Lady Superintendent of Nurses to the North Staffordshire Infirmary and Eye Hospital, Stoke-upon-Trent, where this lady's services, I feel sure, will be greatly appreciated.

I AM very glad to be able to state that Mrs. Duyck now carries forward to the next election no less than one thousand and sixty-three votes, having polled, on Thursday last, three hundred and forty-two votes. In November next Mrs. Duyck should be elected, as she deserves to be, after her patient and weary working and waiting.

DR. ALLAN GRAY, the Medical Officer of Health for Leith, has just issued an unusually startling report, as to the condition of Leith Hospital management:—He says that "during the latter half of February, 1890, the hospital contained cases of diphtheria, erysipelas, measles, and a considerable number of scarlet fever cases, besides a family suffering from typhus; and all these

cases were attended to during the night by one Nurse, who had also to answer the gate bell, this latter duty being a standing source of dread and annoyance to the medical staff." The most startling facts, however, are with regard to the spread of typhus, which was first introduced into the hospital by a labourer who with his wife and seven children were admitted in February, 1890. Thirty-one cases were subsequently recorded as occurring about that period, and the simple statement is appended that they all sprang from the family above mentioned. The climax is reached in the following sentence:—"Of these thirty-one cases twelve at least caught the infection within the hospital, six being patients under treatment for scarlet fever." One can hardly realise that such a wretched state of things were possible in this the year of our Lord, 1891. S. G.

### THE VICAR'S DAUGHTER.\*

An Autobiographical Story.

BY GEORGE MACDONALD, LL.D.,  
Author of "David Elginbrod," "Alec Forbes," "Within and Without," "Malcolm," &c.

#### CHAPTER XVI.—RUMOURS.

HARDLY was it completed, when Cousin Judy called, and I went down to see her, carrying my baby with me. As I went, something put me in mind that I must ask her for Miss Clare's address. Lest I should again forget, as soon as she had kissed and admired the baby, I said—

"Have you found out yet where Miss Clare lives, Judy?"

"I don't choose to find out," she answered. "I am sorry to say I have had to give her up. It is a disappointment, I confess."

"What do you mean?" I said. "I thought you considered her a very good teacher."

"I have no fault to find with her on that score. She was always punctual, and I must allow both played well and taught the children delightfully. But I have heard such questionable things about her!—very strange things indeed!"

"What are they?"

"I can't say I've been able to fix on more than one thing directly against her character, but—"

"Against her character!" I exclaimed.

"Yes, indeed. She lives by herself in lodgings, and the house is not at all a respectable one."

"But have you made no further inquiry?"

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