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Abstract

On Sisters

The introduction of Sisters into the New Hospital will indeed be a blessing . . . No longer will a nurse who has taken offence at some trifle be able to set the whole ward against the house surgeon—there will now be a counteragent to prevent this.

Let us hope that these ladies will undergo a special education before entering on their duties, otherwise they cannot take up that position of nurse and lady combined which it is intended they should.

James Forrester 'The New Royal Infirmary' 19th Jan. 1872.

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On Drugs — Has all this labour of the present day and of so many centuries been in vain? Have we gathered, after all, but a heap of worthless dust? Is the drug, as some hygienists say, a mistake from beginning to end? One believes that it is not so, and that this dust is brimful of energy, that its particles are literally alive and that as their energy is applied rightly or wrongly, so the result is life or death.

D. M. Dunlop 'Drugs and Drug Takers' 27th November, 1925.

On Empirical Treatment

We are no longer content with the empiricisms which satisfied our ancestors, but desire to know the 'modus operandi' of the remedies we use; and so far is this feeling carried that many are ready to give up without hesitation the most time-honoured methods of treatment, if they appear irreconcilable with our present knowledge of Anatomy and Physiology, while they are apt to look somewhat slightly on the experience by which such practice is supported.

Joseph Lister. 'On the Mode in which External Applications act on Internal Parts.' 15th Dec. 1855.

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