

The authors of the majority of the articles contributed were residents in the United States and Canada, but a number from other countries, including our own, also made contributions.

The articles range from the widest to the most narrow scope, from statistical records to the account of an individual case. They are of very unequal merit, and, indeed, this appears always to be the case with ambitious congressional efforts to gather everything in a wide net. In this case the net gathers in not only the calm, sober, and judicious writer, but also the faddist, the person of extreme views, expressed in strong language, and backed up by the misleading citation of such of the words and acts of certain persons, taken as authorities, as suits the purpose, and the ignoring or explaining away of such of them as have a contrary significance.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

The Modern Trained Nurse. By Sir DŸCE DUCKWORTH, M.D., LL.D. An Address delivered before the Royal British Nurses Association, March 15th, 1895. (London: Harrison and Sors. 1895. Demy 8vo. pp. 20. 6d.)—The eminent position occupied by the lecturer is a guarantee that he brings experience and judgment to bear on this question. We are impressed with the chaos which, unconsciously to himself, he reveals as existing in the nursing profession, both as to the time to be set apart for training and as to the matter to be taught. The lecturer further introduces another element into this chaos—even the question of remuneration, recommending first, second, and third grades of nurses, who shall be remunerated according to their grade. We cannot altogether endorse this recommendation; the condition of the patient cannot be graduated in accordance with the fees he may be in a position to pay. The amount of knowledge required of the nurse, as of the medical man, should be fixed at an average standard, the position subsequently attained by the nurse resulting from her own exertions, skill, and character. There are many pieces of good advice to nurses, which, coming from a friendly counsellor, are worthy of their consideration.

Die k niglichen Trink-, Bade-, u. sonstigen Kur-Anstalten in Bad Ems. (Wiesbaden: Brems and Plaum. 1895. Demy 8vo. pp. 50.)—This pamphlet sets forth the claims of Bad Ems to the favour and regard of the medical profession. The character and application of the warm sodium chloride and sodium carbonate springs of Ems are too well known, however, to need any enforcement. Their use and value in the treatment of bronchial catarrh, as well as in gastric, vesical, and uterine catarrhs and in many chronic affections of the generative and nervous systems in women, are universally admitted. All the advantages of an extremely well-organised bath establishment with a variety of appliances useful and necessary for invalids can be found at Ems.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES

AND

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS

IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES.

CHAMPAGNE "SANS-SUCRE."

WE have had occasion to speak favourably of the high dietetic value and remarkably fine quality of the champagne of Laurent-Perrier, introduced here by Messrs. Hertz and Collingwood. It was found on strict and repeated examination to be absolutely free from sugar, and therefore it fills a much-needed place as a dietetic stimulant and table luxury for diabetics, rheumatics, the gouty, and the obese, to whom champagne had hitherto been a forbidden luxury. Only a champagne of the highest quality could be thus presented free from loading with syrups or added liqueurs, and yet sound, full of bouquet and of delicate flavour. Feeling a certain responsibility in thus certifying a wine which might perchance prove to be of variable character we have recently had these tests repeated,

and it is satisfactory to find that the more recent growths and the products of the brand at present on the market are of the same high and unimpeachable character and as completely sugar free as those first submitted. A wine so largely called for was sure to bring rivals into the field, and the agents of a large firm have shown the sincerest form of flattery, which consists in approximate imitation of the title. From a document put before us, however, we observe that they have withdrawn the label objected to.

CHAMPAGNE CIDER.

WE have analysed a sample of the champagne cider manufactured by Messrs. Kingsford and Rake, of Chepstow, and from the results we have obtained we find it to have the composition of an unadulterated cider. We notice that the manufacturers describe it as non-alcoholic, but from a consideration of our analytical results it does not appear that this term can be correctly applied to this cider. Analysis indicates that it contains 2.83 per cent. by weight of absolute alcohol to 6.22 per cent. by volume of proof spirit, strength equal to that of some beers and of most ciders.

FRIEDRICHSHALL WATER.

WE record with interest the successful opening of a new spring at Friedrichshall. The world-famous Friedrichshall spring, which has been continuously worked for upwards of fifty years, and was referred to by Baron Liebig as "a treasure of Nature," has of late given indications that the combination of saline deposits which gave it its value was becoming exhausted. Geologists were of opinion that this was simply due to the dissolving action of the water upon that portion of the vein of deposits which fed the spring, and that the same vein could as easily be struck and worked by another shaft. Borings were accordingly made, and a new spring found, with the satisfactory result that the water drawn therefrom proves to be practically identical with that originally yielded by the old Friedrichshall spring. The following analysis by Professor B. Fischer, of Breslau, compares with that of the old spring made by Professor von Liebig in the year 1846:

Parts in 1,000.

	Fischer, 1894.	Liebig, 1846.
Sulphate of Soda	5.9461	6.6580
" Magnesia	5.9824	5.1502
" Lime	0.7408	1.3456
" Potash	0.1707	0.1982
Chloride of Sodium	7.3112	7.9580
" Magnesia	4.7135	3.9390
Bromide of Magnesia	0.0072	0.1140
Carbonate of Soda	0.3168	0.0000
" Magnesia	0.0113	0.5198
" Lime	0.2193	0.0147
Carbonic Acid	0.2338	0.4020
Silicic Acid	0.0012	Traces
Oxide of Iron	Traces	Traces
Alumina	Traces	Traces
Total	25.6443	25.6955

The valuable combination of sulphates of soda and magnesia (in about equal proportions) with the chlorides of sodium and magnesia constitute the chief and unique value of Friedrichshall water. This combination renders the taste of the water singularly pleasant, wholesome, and cleansing to the palate. It has for many years enabled it to be used as an aperient, occasionally or habitually, with reliable and agreeable results and without violence. The results of experiments carefully conducted at a number of hospitals in Germany, demonstrate that even when taken continuously Friedrichshall water gives rise to no derangement of the stomach or any other unpleasant secondary effects. Unlike most mineral aperients its dose may, during prolonged use, be progressively reduced. After a careful examination of the water, of its analysis, and of the ascertained results of its action as a customary aperient for occasional or continuous use, we can recommend the Friedrichshall water, as now bottled at the new spring, as being in every respect equal to the Friedrichshall water which, for the last fifty years, has been a favourite aperient with the medical profession on the Continent of Europe and in this country.