Miscellancous.

THE DOCTOR'S WILE. Our attention has been called by a distinguished member of the profession and an authority on life assurance to a paragraph in Henry Vizetelly's Glances Back Through Seventy Years At page 415, Vol. I., after discussing the Rugeley poisoning case, Vizetelly writes. "Mayhew, besides interviewing Dr. Taylor, had conducted an inquiry for the paper at the principal life assurance offices with somewhat startling results. . . That the dishonorable portion of the medical profession was largely mixed up with these frauds, and that most offices made it a rule never to insure the life of a medical man's wife." It may hardly seem necessary to take notice of this statement, unsupported as it is by any evidence, and we should have treated it with silent contempt had not our opinion been asked by one of the leaders of the profession. being the case, we communicated with some of the leading actuaries of the day, and they all agree in affirming that they have never heard of any such rule, and that both now as well as in the

past the wives of medical men have just the same facility for assurance as the wives of other men.— British Medical Journal.

LANOLIN. - The Lanolin case before the Court of Appeal has ended in a decision upholding the patent of the Darmstaedter Lanolin Fabrik, and maintaining the injunction which had been granted by Mr. Justice Romer against an English firm for an infringement of it. It was interesting to find English judges discussing evidence on this question obtained from ancient authors such as Livy, Ovid and Dioscorides, but they all agreed that the wool fat of those days-the substance called "œsypus," as described by Dioscorides—was a very different material from that which we know under the name of "lanolin," as introduced by Professor Oscar Liebreich. What the ancients did was to get wool fat out of wool; what is done now is to get the substance called lanolin out of As we all know, lanolin consists chiefly of cholesterin in combination with stearic and other fatty acids, mixed up with a certain quantity of water. The lye or liquor in which wool has

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