

names is 1,579, and of this number 770 were registered in England, 638 in Scotland, and 171 in Ireland. The loss by death was 546, as compared with 558 in the previous year. The growth of the profession as evidenced by the increase in the bulk of the *Register* is portentous. The increase has been nearly 50 per cent. since 1876. In that year there were 22,200 registered practitioners; the *Register* for this year contains 31,644 persons, an increase of 9,444 in eighteen years. A marked and comparatively novel feature in the *Register* is the number of licensing bodies in the Colonies and India which have been recognized by the General Medical Council as granting qualifications entitling to registration in the Colonial List. The bodies thus newly recognised are the Universities of Adelaide, Calcutta, Madras, and the Punjab, and the Ceylon Medical Congress.

—The subject of male nurses has recently been commented upon by Dr. Charles H. Stowell in *Food*. We have for a long time been of the opinion that the male nurse had very small place in the care of the sick. This is certainly true outside of the insane hospitals or prisons, or in a few exceptional cases where mere muscular power is needed. In private homes, certainly, the male nurse is rarely required. In these days of trained nurses there is no comparison between the male and the female nurse as regards usefulness in the sick room.

There are many diseases, for example, typhoid fever, where nursing has a larger place than medicine, and to-day no reputable physician would conduct such a case without obtaining the services of a trustworthy trained nurse to carry out his instructions and to do the thousand and one things so needful to establish convalescence, that only her thoughtful brain and delicate hand are capable of accomplishing. We believe there has been no stronger evidence of progress in medical science in the last fifteen or twenty years than in the training of nurses and in their extensive employment in the sick-room.

A LAW CLINIC.—In a lecture upon the ethics of the medical profession, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell said :—" Who ever heard of a law hospital ?" This taunt put some lawyers to work