

year. The latter post will be filled at the annual meeting of Governors to be held in a few days.

Medical Items.

FRENCH HOSPITALS.—Nothing can be more distressing to any one who comes from a really well managed hospital and really good surgery than to see the shocking sights which are every day to be observed in the French hospitals. The nursing is for the most part nominal. The Sisters of Mercy are administrators and not nurses. They are untrained. They are selected by religious communities from all classes of people, and their object in attending at the hospitals is as much religion as nursing. They serve the breakfast, look after the linen, sit a great deal in their own rooms, give two or three hours a day to the retreat in what is called the chapel of the community; and they are as far from reaching our idea of what the ward-sister should be as the French surgeons are from attaining the modern standard of what a surgeon should be. I have seen in one ward four cases of bedsores which were not known to the sister or the physician, for the patients had never been turned over for days. The patients who come into a French hospital may be seen lying there for weeks with the dirt and filth crusted on their limbs; for it is not the rule to give them baths on entering.—*Paris Cor. Louisville News.*

ANCIENT HINDOO WIT.—The number of the *Transactions of the Odontological Society of Great Britain* for March contains a photograph of a curious Hindoo bas-relief, representing a group of monkeys engaged in extracting a man's tooth. The unfortunate individual is bound, and the tooth is held in the grasp of a very primitive looking extracting instrument (resembling somewhat the large claw of a crustacean), to which a small elephant is attached by means of tackles. The piece of sculpture was found in a ruined temple near Allahabad, known as the Stupa of Bharbut, and was more than 2,000 years old, the temple having been built about the year 200 B.C.