

blood. Suppression of urine occurs in Bright's disease, and often hastens death.

URINE.—The urine is of immense value to a Physician in finding out the nature of the disease. *Albumen*, *pus*, *blood*, and *sugar* are the four impurities met with in urine in cases of disease. *Albumen* is present in all cases of Bright's disease, dropsy, and heart disease. *Pus* gives a greenish-yellow deposit in urine. It may be caused by disease of the kidney or bladder, or by an abscess bursting in the bladder. *Blood* is found in the urine in acute cases of Bright's disease, and in some cases of fevers—often after scarlet fever. *Sugar* is present in cases of diabetes. A large quantity of urine passed daily, patient complaining of great thirst and dryness of skin, often is found to be suffering from diabetes.

SPECIFIC GRAVITY.—The specific gravity on an average is 1020, pure water being taken at 1000; in diabetes the specific gravity runs up from 1030 to 1040, or 1050.

BOWELS.—It is most important to ascertain the condition of the patient's bowels.

CONSTIPATION.—Constipation is due to many diseases, namely, ulceration of the bowels, cancer, and hæmorrhoids. Perforation of the bowels is often found after death from typhoid.

DIARRHŒA.—Diarrhœa is very often dangerous to a patient, and great care should be given to children suffering from it. Impure water, putrid food, unwholesome fruit, and bad drainage often cause diarrhœa.

PULSE.—The pulse may be felt by placing the finger on an artery at the wrist. The rate of pulse in a healthy person is from seventy-four to eighty beats in a minute. The pulse is usually very fast in fevers and pneumonia.

FAINTING.—Often great excitement occurs on a person fainting, which is generally caused by delicate persons being in a close atmosphere or from loss of blood. The patient should lie perfectly flat on his back, his head on a level with his heels. On no account raise the head. Sprinkle a little water on the face. Brandy and water stimulates, and is very good to give a patient when reviving.

APOPLEXY.—A person seized with apoplexy generally falls suddenly down, and for a time is unconscious. The breathing is noisy; the pulse beats very rapidly. The patient should be placed on a couch or in bed, the head slightly raised, and all superfluous clothing removed; the patient to be kept perfectly quiet, the room darkened, and, if possible, a person to sit in the room.

DRUNKENNESS.—Often when a person is intoxicated or drunk he may be seized with apoplexy. Therefore care and attention should be given to an intoxicated person before placing

in bed, and examination should be made to ascertain if there are any internal or external injuries.

EPILEPSY.—A large number of persons suffer from epileptic fits. Generally the patient will utter a loud cry or shriek, and fall suddenly down, often hurting himself considerably. Care should be paid to a patient thus seized. He ought to lie where he has fallen; his head raised; all articles about the throat loosened. The patient is apt to be very violent, and, if not watched and held down, will cause serious injury to himself. To prevent the tongue being lacerated, which is often the case, a cork placed between the teeth is a good protection to the tongue. After an epileptic fit, some patients sleep for hours; others recover, and are able to go about immediately after they become conscious, appearing not, in the slightest, different to any other person unaccustomed to epileptic fits.

HYSTERIA.—Hysterical persons are generally weak, silly creatures, who give way to all kinds of illusions, fancying themselves possessed of almost all the diseases flesh is heir to. The true hysterical fit commences in many ways. Frequently the patient is observed to be staring with her eyes wide open; then suddenly perceiving that persons are noticing her, throws herself suddenly down, shrieking, laughing, and often crying. Others knock themselves about, yet at the same time take care that they don't give themselves any pain or cause any injury in any way; sometimes a person endeavours to attract attention by throwing herself into a hysterical fit. Such person should be very firmly dealt with, though not unkindly. If possible, remove the patient to her room, and leave her entirely alone with a Nurse, who should give the hysterical one to understand that her case is one not deserving of sympathy.

(To be continued.)

NURSING ECHOES.

THERE was a large attendance at the General Council Meeting of the British Nurses' Association on Friday last.



Dr. Gage-Brown took the chair, and there must have been about fifty Members present. The chief interest naturally centred in the Benevolent and Pension Fund schemes, upon which there was an animated discussion. It was explained

that the Pensions would probably be commenced next January, and the pecuniary grants from the

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