

be kept scrupulously clean; food should not be left about, the sight of which will often nauseate a patient, and milk should never be given by the Nurse in hot weather, unless she is perfectly sure that it is not turned. The stools should be carefully watched for undigested curds; and, if necessary, the fact reported to the doctor, in which case the milk may have to be peptonized, diluted, rendered alkaline with bicarbonate of soda, or even stopped for a time altogether.

If it is necessary to feed by enema, by reason of uncontrollable vomiting, or inability to swallow, it is always well to wash out the bowel at least once a day with soap and water or plain cold water. In this way, nutrient enemata are much better retained. Never give milk by rectum unpeptonized, as it is but slightly, if at all, absorbed. Other forms of food require the addition of some peptonizing powder, except alcohol which the bowel is competent to absorb by itself unaided.

It is of the highest importance that the mouth and tongue should be kept as clean and sweet as possible, both from the point of comfort and by reason of the fact that patients will often refuse their food on account of the foul and parched condition of their mouths. In this respect, a conscientious and attentive Nurse is of the greatest value. The mouth should be cleaned out in severe cases every two, or three, or four hours, according to the rapidity with which it becomes dry and clogged. It may be best effected by means of a pledget of cotton-wool or lint held in a pair of dressing forceps and soaked in the chlorine solution to be after referred to. After the cavity of the mouth, the tongue, and sides of the teeth have been thoroughly wiped out, the surface of the tongue may be moistened with glycerine of borax painted on in the same way, or by means of a camel's hair brush. This cleansing of the mouth will be frequently required in enteric, typhus, and in small-pox, and in bad cases of scarlet fever or diphtheria.

Now what a fever-patient is most in want of, next to nourishment, is sleep, in order to mitigate the excessive strain on his nervous system. If a patient sleep well, it is an exceedingly good sign, but, unfortunately, in severe cases, the sleep is usually broken and greatly disturbed. It goes without saying, that sleep should be favoured, by means of a subdued light and the absence of all noise. A well ventilated room, a comfortable bed with not too many coverings, a change of linen, and a clean skin, are all of the greatest value.

(To be continued.)

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Nursing Echoes.

* * * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



As we go to press we learn the magnificent news that Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN, on the advice of Her Privy Council, has been pleased to grant a Royal Charter of Incorporation to the Royal British Nurses' Association. Time only permits us, therefore, to congratulate the Association most warmly on this glorious consummation of its long and arduous labours. And, in the name of Nurses all over the British Empire, we beg, very respectfully, to tender to Her Royal Highness Princess CHRISTIAN the expression of their heartfelt gratitude for the ever memorable part which she has taken in thus transforming Nursing into a State-recognized Profession.

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My latest batch of papers from Chicago give full and glowing accounts of the "exquisite tastefulness" of the British Nursing Department, which seems, from all accounts, to be an oasis amongst the yet unfinished sections allotted to other nations, to which all the visitors wend their way "thro' a desolation of packing cases." Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK and English Nurses may well be proud at the intense interest evidently shown, on all sides, in the exhibits of our craft. I hope to be able to give, next week, a complete account of the department.

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THE vivacious and popular writer, who interests and amuses the public, every week, in the Ladies' Column, in provincial papers, under the *nom de plume* of Penelope, recently, made a suggestion which she will doubtless be glad to hear many Nurses have carried out. Indeed, there is a special machine on the market which enables Nurses to shave their patients without any danger of simultaneously bleeding them. Penelope writes thus:—"My interest in the education and training of Nurses for the sick inclines me to receive a suggestion just made to me by an invalid of the helpless sex, suffering from a sharp attack of influenza. He has a kind, attentive Nurse, and I have just seen him lying on his pillow with a carefully washed face and well brushed hair, but I felt there was something wanting to complete his toilet, and to make

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