

fails, to immediately perform laparotomy, open the abdomen, discover the cause and seat of the obstruction, and treat these as occasion may demand.

LUBRICANTS IN GYNÆCOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

AN interesting discussion has recently taken place in an American contemporary concerning the best lubricants to be used by gynæcologists and gynæcological nurses. A lubricant should certainly always be employed as a matter of precaution, because there can be no doubt that the use of some strong disinfectant ointment, not only hinders the absorption of specific or malignant discharges into cracks or cuts in the fingers, but it also prevents the skin of the doctor's or nurse's hand being directly touched by any contaminating material. The employment of such a protective ointment for the fingers, therefore, makes the use of a stream of warm water after each examination sufficient to remove any morbid material, and, therefore, prevents the grave danger of the conveyance of infection to another patient.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



LORD Sandhurst the new Governor of Bombay, has been made a Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire.

The French Hospital dinner, which was to have taken place at the Hôtel Métropole on the 23rd inst., is unavoidably postponed in consequence of the continued indisposition of his Excellency the French Ambassador, Baron de Courcel, who was to have presided.

The Local Government Board has issued to local authorities a circular covering a memorandum from Dr. Thorne Thorne, the medical officer of the Board, with reference to the provision of isolation Hospitals for infectious cases. The memorandum urges the importance of such provision, and points out that it should not be left till the appearance of an epidemic. The Royal Commission on Small-pox Hospitals,

The Link Shell Truss Co., 171, Wardour Street, London, W., have a new truss. It is claimed that by this method of manufacture a truss is provided which will be more comfortable than the one in ordinary use and better able to adapt itself to the various movements of the body, especially if these are of a sudden character. The truss is fitted with a hip-joint regulator by means of which the pressure is increased or diminished as required and with a soft hollow shell pad perforated for ventilation. The Truss as thus completed is an efficient one.—*Lancet*, August 4th, 1894.

reporting in 1882, stated "That by some means or other the Asylums Board Hospitals (for small-pox) in their present shape cause an increase of small-pox in their neighbourhood appears to us clearly established," and following out this conclusion of the commission to its logical issue, Dr. Thorne recommends that no local authority should contemplate the erection of a small-pox Hospital on any site within a quarter of a mile of a Hospital (whether for infectious cases or not), a workhouse, or a population of 150 to 200 persons. In the case of a population of 500 to 600 it is recommended that no small-pox Hospital be erected within half a mile. Dr. Thorne adds:—"It must also be understood that even where the above conditions are strictly fulfilled there may be circumstances under which the erection of a small-pox Hospital should not be contemplated. Cases in which there is any considerable collection of inhabitants just beyond the half-mile zone should always call for especial consideration." The memorandum, which is intended for the guidance of the newly-formed urban and rural district councils, includes plans for infectious Hospitals such as would meet the requirements of the Local Government Board, and his recommendations may be regarded in the light of hard and fast rules with which the Board will require compliance as a condition precedent to the sanction of loans for infectious Hospitals.

The proceeds of the most successful ice carnival arranged by the Wellington Skating Club, have been given to the District Cottage Hospital.

We understand that Dr. Glover gave notice of the following motion for consideration at the Annual Meeting of the Governors of the Great Northern Central Hospital, held on Friday, Feb. 22, at 5 p.m.:—"That this meeting of Governors of the Great Northern Central Hospital regrets the recent changes in the administration of the Hospital, by which pay patients have been admitted to its wards, to be attended gratuitously by the honorary staff, and is of opinion that such a system is not likely to conduce to the welfare of the Hospital or the advantage of the poor for whom such institutions exist, and should without further delay be abandoned."

We are glad to observe that a satisfactory report has been presented of the year's work at the Annual Meeting of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children at Glasgow, one of the best nursed Hospitals north of the Tweed.

Reduction of Munson Typewriter prices from £21 to £12 12s., our Odell Typewriter reduced to 63s., particulars of both free.—LINK-SHELL TRUSS Co., Surgical Instrument Makers.

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