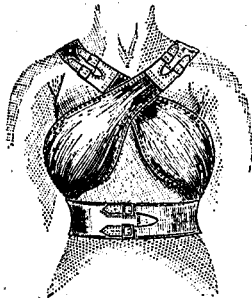


Inventions, Preparations, &c.

THE ELLISON BREAST BANDAGE.

ALL Nurses are aware of the difficulty of adjusting bandages so as efficiently to support or apply pressure to the breast; and the invention to which the above name has been given, and which can be obtained from Messrs. W. H. Bailey and Sons, of 38, Oxford Street, W., therefore meets a decided want. We have tested it, and find that it acts admirably. A waistband is adjusted, and then the breast pieces are crossed on the



chest and attached to the opposite shoulder, by buckles. The appliance is made in three sizes—small, medium, and large—and its cost is 5s. 6d. It can be easily washed, and for this purpose the buckles need not be removed. The great advantages which can be gained by its employment are that uniform and easily-regulated pressure can be secured, and that there is no need to move the patient, as is of course unavoidable in the application of an ordinary bandage.

THE PNEUMATIC AIR CUSHIONS invented by the same firm are equally ingenious, and as shown in the appended illustration, consist of inflated india-rubber ovoids, which fit around the ear, and thus prevent the pressure which often causes the patient much discomfort, and even pain, when this has been long continued.

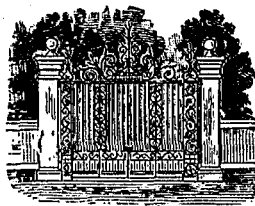


REYNOLDS & BRANSON LEEDS

The price of these ingenious pads is five shillings a pair, and they, and all the before-mentioned appliances, can be obtained direct from the inventors, or through any chemist or instrument maker.

Outside the Gates.

MEDICAL AID TO INDIAN WOMEN.



A GENTLEMAN of the name of B. L. Dhingra, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., has been very energetic of late in his endeavours to prove that medical women, far from being needed in India, are harmful and injurious! He has a curious article on the subject in

the *Indian Magazine and Review*, from which the following extracts are taken. He has also been giving his views to some of the English medical papers. He says:

"It appears to me, in the first place, as a glaring fact—and a very painful one it is—that many of our compatriots do not feel interested in a question of this sort. Perhaps they pose as fools where women are concerned. One might, perhaps, explain the idiosyncrasy by the deep inculcation of dogmatic principles: for they have long been taught to regard everything respecting the amelioration of the condition of women as a 'revolution'! What was good for their fathers is quite good enough for them. I propose to give an outline of the present system of medical aid to Indian women, then to mention certain anomalies about the 'Female Medical Aid,' and finally I will venture to make a few suggestions. I need hardly point out that the question concerns chiefly the upper and middle classes of Hindus and Mohamedans.

Leaving out of consideration women of the agricultural and working classes, who move about freely, and, disregarding the microscopical minority formed by certain sections of the educated community, all are practically in the same boat from our standpoint; they must either seek the advice of lady doctors, or depend on a ridiculous doctoring device. The latter—the more common form of medical advice in vogue by far—is synonymous with 'sham medical treatment.' Ostensible in principle, disagreeably complicated in practice, and yet held in favour, this system is notorious for its degenerating influence on the medical man, and for its lamentable effects on the sick.

It seems necessary, painful though it is, to glance at the manner in which this indefensible 'treatment' is carried out. The typical description is somewhat after the following: A male relation of the woman, who has been ill for some time past, goes to a doctor, or to a *Hakim*, or Indian doctor, describes the symptoms that he knows of, and gets some medicine. A week or two later, on the patient getting worse and worse, the doctor is called to the house, and various manoeuvres are performed to examine the patient's tongue and pulse. It is needless to go into the details—suffice it to say that the departure of the unfortunate woman from this world puts an end to the tragi-comic scene. Or her malady, originally trivial, is so long neglected that she lingers for some time—may be a few years—in a miserable state, living scarcely more than a vegetable existence. The chief consolation to her near ones seems to lie in the posthumous remark that 'She lived a noble life and died

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