

straction of blood from the head to the feet is based upon scientific principles or not, it is, at any rate, a practical fact that in many instances this simple treatment affords great relief to the patient, even if it does not prevent the occurrence of more severe cerebral symptoms.

Diabetic patients often suffer from skin diseases, especially eczema, and sometimes this is so extreme and so exceedingly irritable as to cause not only great discomfort, but even marked mental depression. Nothing relieves these patients so much, and so completely soothes the irritated surface, as the retention of the affected part under water. When the arm and hand, for example, is affected, a suitable bed bath containing warm water can be so arranged as to enable the patient to keep his arm under the surface of the water for an hour or two at a time. By this means, the irritation of the skin is allayed, the inflamed surface is soothed, the dry scabs are soaked off, and a healthy healing surface is left upon which ointments can then be placed with much benefit.

(To be continued.)

Qui s'excuse s'accuse.

FRIENDS of the Chelsea Hospital for Women—and it has many warm supporters—must regret to observe the periodical little puffs sent to the press recounting the visits of titled and doubtless amiable persons, but whose visits cannot in any way rehabilitate a charitable Institution in public estimation.

The management of this Hospital was impugned, and proved defective; one cardinal mistake was made in attempting reforms—and that was that the Committee who were responsible for the mismanagement did not at once retire. They preferred to remain, and “face the music.” Very well—having done so, their only course of action is to govern the Hospital on the most just and progressive lines, and see *personally* that every department is well organised, and that every officer performs his duty in an efficient manner; and at once put an end to a form of advertisement which cannot gain for them the confidence of sensible people.

We are fully aware that the actual nursing of the patients is excellent, the wards being beautifully kept, and the nursing staff highly efficient, and we can confidently recommend any Nurse desirous of obtaining good gynaecological experience, to apply for admission to this special Nursing School.

A Loss to the Nursing World.

THE Nursing world will sustain a great loss in the resignation of Miss Elizabeth Clyde, the able Matron of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, a post which she has filled with distinction since 1872.

Miss Clyde was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Manchester, from 1867 to 1869; she acted as Sister at the Middlesex Hospital from 1869 to 1872, when she was appointed Matron of the Institution to which she has devoted twenty-two years of her life.

Miss Clyde was a pioneer in Scotland of the three years' system of training for Nurses—a standard which was inaugurated at the Western Infirmary soon after her appointment.

Miss Clyde is a member of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and a Registered Nurse.

The Gloucester Small-Pox Epidemic.

THE sanitary authorities at Gloucester, after the natural confusion of the first few days, have done their work admirably, and the streets are well-watered several times a day by water-carts, sprinkling strong solutions of carbolic and other disinfectants. Special precautions have also been taken in the disposal of the dead, which must be accomplished within 24 hours of decease. The cemetery gates are locked, so as to prevent risks to children, and to those eccentric individuals who regard a stroll through a cemetery as the next best thing to a country walk. Ordinary funerals are interdicted until an hour after a small-pox burial has taken place. In the face of such epidemics, it seems a matter for great regret that cremation is not used. When disease is among us is no time for the sentiment some people profess with regard to this hygienic disposal of the dead. But it is almost safe to say that any attempt to introduce cremation at Gloucester would have produced more panic and consternation than the epidemic itself has done. That was the history of Hamburg during the great cholera outbreak. There is a most beautiful Crematorium in the city, but popular prejudices were so strong, that during all the “panic” and “reign of terror” of the cholera outbreak, the authorities did not venture to suggest the use of this Crematorium as a means of cutting short the havoc the disease made among the people. It is a relief to know that the epidemic at Gloucester is decidedly on the decrease.

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