

feared; if the premonitory symptoms are noticed and reported, preventive precautions may be taken, and what might have been fatal hæmorrhage averted.

Hæmorrhage is *naturally* arrested:—

(1) By slowing of the circulation, due to faintness of the patient, thereby allowing a clot to form.

(2) By contraction and retraction of the cut ends of the vessel.

All arteries are like stretched elastic tubes. These when cut shrink up—(a) decreasing in length—(b) decreasing in calibre.

Exposure to cold air favours this process. Hence in the small arteries, which shrink the most, the blood flow is, to a great extent, arrested, and allows of clot formation.

(3) Clean cuts bleed far more than ragged ones. For this reason. All the arterial coats (elastic and muscular) are torn about anyhow. The internal coat of the vessel curls up far more than the other one and nearly blocks the vessel. Besides this blood clots far more readily about a ragged surface than a clean cut one.

Delusions of the Insane.

In a well-known Insane Asylum there is a woman patient who is mad on the subject of dispensing hospitality. So long as she is allowed to lay dinner-tables for imaginary guests she is quite happy and easy to manage. She is a private patient, and is therefore allowed more latitude than can be given to some of the inmates. The attendants allow her to help them in the dispensing of the food to some of the other patients, and this, with the everlasting adjustment of flowers, knives, forks, spoons, and glasses on a large table kept specially in her room for this purpose, keeps her quite content. She is very tasteful and ingenious in new methods of decoration and variations of floral arrangements. Another is a woman no longer in her first youth, but who, outside of an Asylum, would command attention by her vivid colour, quick movements and soft stealthy step. Day follows day as she sits with arms closely folded across her breast, swaying to and fro in the low rocker placed in the open doorway, watching with the look in her eyes that a cat has before she springs upon her prey. If the attendants are asked why this woman always sits there in the one attitude and never speaks, they say, "Do not speak, or notice her in any way. She is a homicidal patient, patiently waiting for a certain person that she intends to murder."

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
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You can tell it by its Dainty Fragrance.

Glass Coffins.

GLASS coffins are one of the latest inventions emanating from the United States. Glass tombstones have been used for some time, but the coffin of glass is a distinct novelty. One of the advantages claimed for them is that they will relieve the fears of those who dread being buried alive, as the coffin can be kept under observation for an indefinite time. It is said that a glass coffin stays the process of decay, for neither water, air, nor earth can penetrate it. To preserve dead bodies is certainly a retrograde step. Modern science recognises the necessity of speedy disintegration of the dead, and for this reason glass coffins will find no favour with hygienists. The main part of the glass casket is cast in one piece, one and a half or two inches thick. The lid is cast with a tongue on the underside, which fits into a groove, and after the body has been placed within the interstices are closed with water-proof cement, and effectually made air-tight. A portion of the lid being of clear glass, the face of the dead is visible. The manufacturers claim that bodies can be "preserved for centuries" if interred in glass coffins, and they do not seem to realize that this statement, if it be true, is the most potent argument against their adoption.

The Sutherland Benefit Nursing Association.

The first Annual Report of this Association, which the Duchess of Sutherland set on foot in 1894, has just been issued, and from it we learn that it is in a flourishing financial state. The Duchess, in her preface to the Report, speaks of the diffidence with which she inaugurated her scheme for affording care and nursing to the sick poor in scattered country parts, and of the prejudices she thought it would be so difficult to overcome. But the Nurses appear to have done that. There are now ten Nurses at work in the county, and three more in training. We are glad to learn that a "highly-qualified" Lady Superintendent and Inspector is to be chosen, and we have no doubt she will bring up the standard of training of these Nurses who need the more qualification because they work in such isolated districts, and have, consequently, great need of experience to fall back upon in the absence of medical assistance. For in many of the districts of Sutherlandshire—remote and scattered—one or two days, and even more, may elapse before medical aid can be obtained for cases of serious illness and accident. So that much more responsibility rests with the Nurses who work in such districts.

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