

The patient's appearance now was at the worst, the face cyanosed and drawn, and his breathing was so laboured that his remaining strength was greatly tried. The poultices were changed every two hours, but after twelve hours they were discontinued and cotton wool substituted.

On the 21st day the temperature fell from 103.6° to 100.4°, and though it rose to 102° the next evening, that could almost be said to be the crisis. On the 21st day also, on examining the urine, it was found to be quite free from albumen, and the uric acid was not so concentrated, the quantity of urine passed in twenty-four hours being 3xl., the sweating also continuing. The very acid smell had also disappeared, and altogether the kidneys had regained their normal condition.

On the 25th day of illness the evening temperature is 99.4°, pulse 88, and respiration 26, though the temperature rises to 101° during the day. The patient has no delirium, and complains of no pain only of extreme weakness. There are still rose spots over the abdomen and chest. The bowels are moved once in two days with an enema of soap and water, and the motions are still enteric in character though more formed. The patient is very thin, the bones being unpleasantly prominent, but there is no sign of the skin breaking. He is sponged over twice a day with warm water and Rimmel's vinegar, which is a great source of comfort to him. During the illness he was changed from a large double bed to a single spring mattress, as this was more easily managed. His nourishment now is one hour a glass of champagne, next a teacupful of peptonised milk with one teaspoonful of Kepler's malt, and next a teacupful of milk and two teaspoonfuls of brandy, and so on all day; during the night something every two hours. He is also allowed a cup of weak tea with cream twice a day.

On the 26th day temperature fell to normal in the morning.

*November 17th.*—The patient's temperature has been normal for a week, and to-day he sat upright in bed without the slightest assistance. For three days he has been having a breakfast-cupful of chicken tea twice a day, alternated with beef-tea, and to-day, for the first time, he has had something in the way of solid food—a saucer-full of arrowroot with cream, which to-morrow is to have the addition of an egg. He also has egg flip once a day and is gaining strength very quickly. He is very much emaciated, but complains of nothing now except hunger. His cough has almost entirely disappeared, deafness also, and he is rapidly regaining his normal condition.

*December 1st.*—Patient is up.

### Appointments.

MISS FLORENCE SMEDLEY has been appointed Matron of St. George's Hospital. Miss Smedley was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and, in her final examination in 1887, was bracketed at the head of the list with Miss Maud Smith, the present Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Bristol. Both ladies received gold medals. Miss Smedley was appointed Sister Darker at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1888,

and was Matron of the Convalescent Home at Swanley in 1893-94, a post which she resigned on obtaining her present appointment as Matron of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. We cordially congratulate St. George's Hospital upon securing the services of a lady so admirably qualified to effect the reorganisation of its nursing department on modern lines. The appointment is the more satisfactory because it is an open secret that the most strenuous efforts were made to obtain the election of a person whose professional record has been so questionable that no confidence could have been felt in her occupancy of so important a position.

Miss Mina Gibson Cowan has been appointed Superintendent Nurse of the New Infirmary of the King's Norton Union. Miss Cowan received her training at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and is at present Superintendent Nurse at the Sunderland Union Infirmary.

Nurse Burtwell, of St. George's Hospital, has been appointed a Sister in that Institution.

### Legal Matters.

#### BREAY v THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

It will be remembered that Mr. Justice North recently, on the application of Miss Breay, granted an injunction preventing Mr. John Langton, Mr. Edward A. Fardon, and Mrs. Dacre Craven, on behalf of the Royal British Nurses' Association, from spending any of the funds of the Association in defending the action for libel brought against Miss Josephine de Pledge, of the Chelsea Workhouse Infirmary. We are informed that the defendants have entered an appeal against the decision of Mr. Justice North, the result of which we will, in due course, report. We are also informed that Miss de Pledge, supported by Mr. Edward A. Fardon (but it is stated without any authority from the Association), applied this week to the Courts to have the Royal British Nurses' Association made co-defendants in the action brought against Miss de Pledge. This application was at once refused by a Master in Chambers, and the applicant was ordered to pay its costs. We make no comment of course on the legal question, but, on behalf of the nurses, we must strongly protest against the deplorable waste of their monies involved in apparently frivolous and certainly unsuccessful legal proceedings on the part of the officials of the Association.

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