

at a hospital and dispensary, and return to the East with scanty qualifications, small knowledge, a Bible, and a few instruments, posing as lady doctors, but merely taking the bread from the fully qualified woman.

Woman has now released herself from the old bonds, especially by her entrance into the medical profession with all its attendant responsibilities. Many of the studies have to be carried out under objectionable and unfavourable circumstances; none the less woman's advance in the profession has been sure, if slow.

Recalling the meeting at Nottingham, at which the qualified ladies were elected Members of the British Medical Association, Mr. Mackinlay paid a tribute to the life-long work of Mrs. Dr. Garrett Anderson, and that of Mrs. Scharlieb, mentioning also that past gynæcological authority, Madame de Boivin.

The late Albert Smith called medical students an interesting race, although in his time no women medicals existed. His advice was, "Forget the deeper studies, and forget the red globules of the blood in billiard balls." Ladies could substitute cycling, tennis, or other exercises for the billiards.

Considering the many eminent men connected with the hospital, the names of Dr. Cockle, of Mr. Wakley, Mr. Gant, and of Professor Rose presented themselves. The speaker also dwelt upon the many expensive changes which have recently been made in the Royal Free Hospital, and alluded to the New Hospital for Women, and to the great alterations now going on in the school in Handel Street. Of his own speciality, ophthalmology, Mr. Mackinlay treated only very briefly, touching upon the far-reaching responsibility of the treatment of diseases of the eye, and of the terrible deprivation which loss of sight means to the uneducated poor. In this branch of the medical art, nerve, cheerfulness, and kindness are the essential weapons.

Amongst the advice tendered by Mr. Mackinlay to the students was that of being just to their colleagues, and to brother and sister practitioners, of a necessity for lucidity in speaking to patients and their relatives, but the positive need of a dogged perseverance in the work. Despatch and method are the soul of the profession, and the smallest detail of deportment requires to be studied. The demonstration of sympathy should never be repressed, and no one having a heart can have indifference, this latter being the perfection of selfishness.

In conclusion, the lecturer spoke in warm terms of appreciation of Lord Lister, and as a corollary suggested that Her Majesty might institute some order of distinction for the women members of the medical faculty. Truly did they merit it, for many of them have to go through not only serious trials, but often imminent danger. It is known that many women die at their posts from cholera, diphtheria, fever, and other forms of contagious disease, and for these heroines of an often silent battlefield there has been so far no particular recognition. We can only hope that the day is not far distant when a decoration for courage will be instituted for women doctors as it is for women nurses, and that the Queen will see her way to further ennobling them. At any rate, if you cannot all attain to the dignity of being a great doctor, each can do her duty fearlessly and thoroughly, and this of itself will make you feel contented and able to say with Hazlitt, when your time is over, "Well, I have had a happy life."

## Inventions.

### HYGIENIC UNDERCLOTHING.

It is a well-recognized fact that, at the present day, one of the greatest preventatives of disease consists of the proper care in clothing the body, because physiology teaches that the action of the skin is a great purifying agent, and everyday experience proves that chills to its surface are the most potent cause of inflammations of the internal organs. The use, therefore, of underclothing made entirely of wool, which not only allows free action, while it preserves the full warmth, of the skin, is universally recommended by the medical profession. The Hygienic Underclothing, introduced by Dr. Thomalla, consists of a material of double texture, the outside of which is made of wool and cotton, both of which are well deprived of their oils, while the inside texture, with somewhat larger meshes, is manufactured of raw cotton, not deprived of its oil, and consequently is not absorbent but allows the perspiration to pass through it into the outer texture, which absorbs it. From a scientific point of view, therefore, this material is excellent. The samples which have been submitted to us are light, porous, and warm, and, judging by the prices, and the fact that the material does not shrink in washing, it should prove most economical in wear.

### MOUILLA LIQUID SOAP.

A NEW preparation to which this name has been given has recently been brought to our notice, and we have given it a careful trial. It is made from the purest ingredients, and contains a far larger percentage of glycerine than is possible in hard soap. It is very delicately perfumed, and a few drops are sufficient to make an abundant lather. We find that it is more agreeable and more cleansing than ordinary cake soaps, and especially valuable for washing the head, rendering the hair soft and lustrous. Its price compares very favourably also with an equal quantity of hard soap, and it has, therefore, many and great advantages. It can be obtained of all chemists or perfumers, or direct from the Proprietors, the Liquid Soap Company, 6, Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C.

### PIC NIC CONDENSED MILK.

THIS, which is the latest form of condensed milk, has recently been tested by us, and deserves recommendation in various particulars. It is the milk of cows fed on the well-known grazing fields of Holland, and differs from many other condensed milks by the large amount of cream which it contains and by its most agreeable taste. Its price is very moderate, and there is every reason to believe that if it were widely known it would be largely used. It can be obtained through any grocer.

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