

Annotations.

A TRAVELLING HOSPITAL.

An interesting experiment is being carried out in Egypt under the direction of Mr. A. F. MacCallan, who was formerly connected with the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields.

About a year ago, Sir Ernest Cassel placed at the disposal of the Egyptian Government a sum of £40,000 to be used for the benefit of sufferers from diseases of the eye. The Egyptian Sanitary Department decided to establish a travelling ophthalmic hospital or dispensary to obviate the necessity of patients making long journeys to obtain treatment.

The hospital consists of eight Indian tents and a kitchen of sun-dried bricks. On an average six operations are performed daily in the largest tent. Two tents are set apart for the accommodation of in-patients, but only the more severe cases, especially those requiring intra-ocular operation, are admitted.

In another tent out-patients are treated by Mr. MacCallan's Arab assistant, who has been trained in Cairo. Besides this assistant there are attached to the hospital about ten nurses and servants.

Great numbers of patients seek treatment, and the *Lancet* justly points out that the large proportion of women who present themselves shows that the hospital has secured the confidence of the Mahometan population.

THE RUSSIAN WOUNDED.

The Russian Red Cross and other societies are actively pushing forward preparations for the care of their sick and wounded. It is contemplated that they will be able to provide twenty-six sanitary detachments with 5,000 beds, some of which have already left for the seat of war. The first hospital train left Moscow on February 15th; it consisted of nineteen wagons—fourteen for the transport of the wounded, four for the staff, and one for the kitchen. The staff consisted of three surgeons, five sisters of charity, and thirty-six nurses. In addition, 200 surgeons of the reserve left St. Petersburg for the seat of war soon after the commencement of hostilities.

To augment the fund of the Red Cross Society, it is announced that a duty of 25 per cent. will shortly be levied on the winnings of persons betting at racecourses on the pari-mutuel system. The duty already existing on railway tickets for the benefit of the same Society will be increased.

Medical Matters.

A NEW INVENTION.

Professor Mikulicz, a celebrated Breslau surgeon, at the annual German surgical congress this week, announced an invention enabling the exposure of the human lungs for operative purposes.



Experts already acquainted with the process say the invention will widely increase the range of chest surgery operations in the region of the cesophagus and thorax. It consists of an air-tight cabinet holding the patient and two operators, the patient's head protruding through an opening at the side. The principle involved is a reduction of the air pressure around the exposed lung, so as to prevent its collapse. Trial of the invention has proved that the lungs upon exposure fill up with air and empty themselves regularly, and the heart action continues uninterrupted except by anaesthesia.

MOTORISTS' DISEASE.

During the last few years the medical journals have added many terrors to existence, and the credit for the latest discovery is due to the *Medical Press*. A new disease, "motorpathia cerebialis," has arisen in our midst, it appears, and automobilists are the objects of its attentions. The vibration of the car, especially at high rates of speed, produces in some the same temporary disorganisation of function that the motion of the ship does in the seasick passenger, and nausea, giddiness, and headache are the result of a fast journey over a rough road. The art of the car-builder is able to reduce this disadvantage to a great extent by providing large and powerful springs, but some people, especially ladies, suffer considerably from the jolting and swinging of the car. The frequent use of the car in everyday practice in a district in which the roads are bad seems to tend to upset the normal equilibrium of the nervous system, and unsteadiness of gait and shakiness of the hand result. In fact, one sees similar effects produced on some constitutions to those manifested by men whose occupation leads them to pass much of their time in trains, a general unrestfulness that must lead to serious nervous trouble in time. Horse exercise does not tend to set up these disturbances, and the motion conveyed to the rider is well known to act beneficially. "The best place for the inside of a man is the

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