

tage to the patients, but is rather preferred than otherwise by the nurses themselves."

The views of patients as to practical nursing matters do not frequently find their way into print, therefore some hints to nurses and nursing institutions from Sir R. Tangye, who experienced a long illness necessitating the attendance of trained nurses for a considerable period, are the more welcome. Here are some of them:—

"It often happens that patients have to lie on their backs for a considerable time; in such cases their comfort demands that the bed-clothes should not be tucked in tightly over their toes, although 'neatness' seems to demand it. If you are in any doubt on the point just try it yourself for a fortnight."

"Avoid all unnecessary noises. Open and close doors quietly; in dealing with the wash-basins, &c., avoid all clattering. These may seem elementary hints, but they are quite necessary in almost every case I have known."

"No patient can be said to be quite comfortable while lying on his bed of pain; so when after shaking your pillows up (and yourself with them) the nurse asks in harsh vernacular, 'Are ye comfortable?' the struggle between your desire to be polite and yet truthful, causes you to hesitate to reply, and so the question is repeated 'Are ye?' 'Not very' you timidly reply. Again the shaking up process is repeated and again you are asked 'Are ye comfortable now.' Fairly aggravated you reply with energy, 'No, I am not!' and you are given up as being impracticable."

The question of "maternal impressions" crop up in the medical Press from time to time, and the following note from Dr. Thomas F. Henly to the *British Medical Journal* is more than strange. He writes:—

"On May 5th I was called to attend a young married woman in her first confinement; I was informed she had 'been bad' all night. On examination, about 10.15 a.m., I found her in labour, the os being dilated to about the size of a florin, and the head presenting. Leaving the patient, I returned at 12.30 p.m., when I found the face presenting, and the pains being strong and regular. I remained until the child was born, about 4 p.m. On the head being delivered I was astonished to find that it was almost severed from the body, which I had difficulty in delivering as the child was exceptionally well developed, and the head could not be trusted as a means of help. The baby—a full-term female—was born dead, and the throat presented the appearance of having been cut from ear to ear, just as if it had been done after birth, with the exception that there was no bleeding from the cut surfaces, which seemed to be completely healed

over. The cord was not around the neck, nor was there any other visible cause for this most extraordinary state of affairs. However, early in the year, a case of suicide occurred in the neighbourhood, when a well-known man cut his throat. The news of this quite upset the expectant mother, who comes of a family peculiarly susceptible to nervous impressions. I may add that the case was shown to the medical man who attended the suicide, and he told me that the child's throat was a facsimile of the cut in the throat of his patient."

It seems likely that a "sea career" is opening up for American nurses. The German Hospital, New York, has already furnished two graduate nurses on the application of the Hamburg-American line for service on two of its largest vessels—the *Amerika* and the *Kaiserin Auguste Victoria*. Other lines may be expected to follow the practice, and thus the nurse as well as the doctor becomes a necessary complement of a first-class steamship. The sphere of usefulness for the well-equipped nurse is constantly growing broader. England as usual is late in the field.

An interesting item occurs in the Annual Report of the Church of England Zenana Missionary Societys' Dispensaries, Srinagar, where Miss E. M. Newman, who is known to our readers as a contributor to these columns, has done such good work for so many years. The nursing staff at Srinagar is announced as follows:—"Miss Newman, Superintendent; Rukm Didi, 1st Assistant; Kattij Didi, 2nd Assistant; Tagili, 3rd Assistant." It will thus be seen that all Miss Newman's helpers are drawn from the people amongst whom she lives, a most desirable condition of things for many reasons. The first is, of course, that the Englishwoman in Asia is an exotic whose aim, if she desires to place her work on a really permanent basis must be to train an efficient native staff, with the ultimate object of placing them in full charge of the work. Secondly, a trained native can get at the mind, and understand the needs of her compatriots much better than any European, and thirdly the saving of expense in managing a mission is very great, the difference in the cost of maintaining a European and a native worker is considerable, besides which in the case of the former, not only the passage money out, but periodical journeys to England for the sake of recruiting must be taken into account.

Miss Alice M. Moore, writing in *Una* on "January in the North-West of Canada; on Night Duty," says:—

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