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Editorial.

THE MASSAGE QUESTION.

7HE benefits of Massage in appropriate cases are so highly estimated and so widely known that it is not surprising that, during the past few years, the treatment has been somewhat overdone. Hundreds, perhaps it would be more accurate to say thousands, of persons, male and female, have found that the administra-tion of Massage is a profitable occupation, and that the operator can generally command a good remuneration if only he or she can obtain sufficient employment. The natural consequence has been that large numbers of persons, who are quite unacquainted with anatomy, and totally ignorant of the duties connected with the care of the sick, have adopted this calling; and, moreover, many of them, unfortunately, have proved to be persons whose characters can hardly be commended. Consequently, discredit has been thrown upon the art of massage by those who have practised, or mal-practised, it; and this drawback has been accentuated during the last few months by an extraordinary effort, and entirely new departure, of medical journalism. The British Medical Journal, the organ of the British Medical Association, recently startled the profession and the public by discussing what it termed the Scandals of Massage Houses. It published a few articles which ended as abruptly as they commenced; and which left the crusade precisely where it begunin the gutter; and, as a matter of fact, merely stirred a quantity of mud, without effecting any appreciable benefit to anyone. We observe that previous page next page