

manage her children, so that there should be the minimum of coercion with the maximum of obedience, for there is so much art in managing a child. I have seen a young Nurse completely routed by a masterful little imp, and when an experienced Nurse has come on the scene the young master has simply had to lay down his arms.

In the case of young babies there is so much in individual management. There are some Nurses with whom the babe seems at once quite at home, and others equally loving, well-intentioned, who are quite bewildered in handling an infant, and the babe knows it; the little thing wants "mothering" as much as doctoring, and this it will get but as the charge of one Nurse.

Take for instance the art of feeding. An experienced hand will settle the babe on her lap, allow it to have its legs and hands free, and perhaps something near at hand diverting its attention, and then say with some irritation, "This is such a troublesome baby to feed!" An experienced Nurse will swathe it in a blanket, imprisoning legs and hands, and make it understand that the business in hand is food, and the food will be taken in half the time. When the question of feeding is a matter of life and death, it will then be evident how very important it is that a Nurse should be clever at this art, and that her hand and mind should be thoroughly well practised in its intricacies.

To this practical training must be added the disciplining of the mind and memory. The Nurse has to store in her memory every particular about her patients, and to be able to give a concise report of these particulars; no mixing up of one patient with another will do, or the plan of treatment may also become mixed. She will be required to report upon the action of the medicines taken by the patients, the state of the appetite, the performance of daily functions, any change that she notices, or appearance of fresh symptoms, in none of these particulars will she receive much help from her patients, so that they must all be arranged in her mind in an orderly, methodical manner. That this is no easy task may be proved by anyone being suddenly called to take charge of a Ward full of fresh patients, who will find at once how difficult it is to charge the memory with the hundred and one little details that concern each child.

In another particular much care is needful. Sick children change very rapidly; the only premonitory sign may be some indefinite alteration only observable by the Nurse thoroughly acquainted with her patient, and yet by no means to be disregarded. Here is a marked instance.

I was taking temporary duty for an absent

Sister. In the Ward there was a boy suffering from diphtheritic paralysis. His Nurse said to me, "I am sure that this boy is worse" (until then he had not been a very anxious case). She could give me no reason, point to no fresh symptom, nor could I discover any change; still she noticed some minute change not apparent to a casual observer, in fact she seemed over anxious; but I took care that the House Physician was told. That was the first note of warning of a very serious and fatal change that overtook that case. Now, if that boy had not been one Nurse's charge, I doubt if that change would have attracted notice.

Such things must always occur among sick children, and they require concentrated attention to note them, and, moreover, the individual experience of the individual child. Over and above the actual skilled Nursing, it is necessary to develop in the Nurse the mother's instinct, the grand self-sacrifice and self-forgetfulness that are the outcome of the mother's love; we want each Nurse to gather her little ones into her arms with the resolve that she will spend and be spent for them. They are hers, and for a time they will look to her for a mother's love and a mother's care. They must be more than cases to her, or they will not thrive as they might in her care. Let us put into the arms of a young Nurse some poor little neglected babe. It is to be her charge by day, and she is to do her best with it; her pride will be aroused, especially if some other young Nurse also has a case, and a generous rivalry between the two will be to the manifest advantage of the babes. Suppose that this babe improves in the marvellous way that babes do, with love and intelligent care, then that Nurse will have learnt a lesson in the care of young infants that will abide by her always.

In the management of Surgical patients, the individual care of the individual patient is much needed, for these patients have to be coerced into quietude against their natural bent; and they are so full of tricks that they can easily master an untrained attendant. Then, in the case of an operation, there are so many minute details to be attended to in the placing of the patient in bed, upon which his comfort depends, and so much scope for the exercise of individual ingenuity in tending the case, that the patient indeed needs to be one person's care. The Nurse accompanies him to the theatre, she returns with him to take charge of him; she has to coax him through the stage of misery and wretchedness on coming out of the chloroform, and perhaps to maintain an irksome position; she has to tide him over the acute stage of the operation, and to humour without indulging him; she has to manage his diet, so it shall be sufficiently varied and nourishing, and in

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