

States and on the ceramics of Peru, human figures bearing distinct marks of lupoid and perhaps leprosy and other skin diseases. While it is extremely probable that the diseases in question were prevalent at that period, it would seem that marks on rough clay images do not in themselves form a very satisfactory basis for diagnosis.

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An interesting question has recently been raised as to whether there is an heredity in accidents. Several cases have been cited in support of the theory, notably one Thomas Gill who was recently killed in one of Lord Dudley's pits. It is stated that deceased belonged to a large family of miners, and four of his ancestors, all named Thomas Gill, had been killed in collieries.

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The frequency of cases of leprosy in the United States has led to a Catholic Sisterhood determining to build a Leper Hospital at New Orleans. A Sister has offered to act as Superintendent, and the Catholic papers are appealing for more volunteers.

### Nursing Exhibition at the Midwives' Institute.

THE Nursing Exhibition of the Midwives' Institute and Trained Nurses' Club, 12, Buckingham Street, Strand, is now open. It is a matter of the utmost value, both for the Nurse in training, and the Nurse whose training has long been completed, to be ever on the *qui vive* for new "wrinkles," fresh suggestions and novelties which she may turn to account in her ward, and in the private sick-room.

The promoters of this Nursing Exhibition were anxious that it should be held at the Club, although they find the space at their disposal is somewhat limited, and hardly allows them to show off their collection of Nursing appliances to the best advantage. Some ingenuity has therefore been needed to put the best things uppermost. It is natural at the Midwives' Institute that special interest should centre on novelties connected with obstetrics, and we naturally turn first to the Midwives' Table, which shows specimens of the pads and absorbent sheets used at the Endell Street, the British, and other Lying-in Hospitals.

The celluloid douche cans one specially admires on account of their cleanliness, and their lightness makes them an admirable addition to a district maternity bag. A model of a model accouchement bed arranged by one of the midwives, takes a fair share of admiration for neatness and completeness.

Hanging on a gas bracket is a child's caul, a relic which is specially coveted by the superstitious. It is supposed that a child born with a caul is specially fortunate, but it would seem that the luck falls mostly on the parents, who frequently dispose of the caul to superstitious sailors. Jack Tar will willingly give £4 to become the proud possessor of a caul, which when carried in the breast pocket is well known to prevent the owner from ever being drowned!

Messrs. Garrould show an excellent assortment of Nurses' instruments, chatelaines and scissors—these latter unscrewing in the centre so as to allow of absolute cleanliness.

The Mildmay Mission Hospital has a table covered

with many ingenious little devices for the neat and decorative bestowal of dressings, &c., for ward use. A gorgeous tin box for gauzes attracts our notice and admiration, and we then learn that some artistic Nurse has devised this addition to the charms of her ward-table from a Mazawattee tea-box, and some enamel. It has "Gauze" printed most professionally on the lid, and is quite a thing of beauty. Some square blocks of wood, stained and perforated with holes some 3 inches deep, serve for pen and brush stands, make for tidiness, and show ingenuity on the part of the Mildmay Nurses, whose mackintosh covers for spittoons and sponge jars are also of excellent finish. The liniment jacket also is admirable.

A patent fomentation and poultice heater appears to be good. It is made of tin; the flannel or fomentation which needs heating is placed flat in a kind of warming pan which may be held over the gas. Private Nurses who have used it speak highly of its practicality.

The District Nurses' table is interesting. The Queen's badges are shown, the gold one for the Inspector of Nurses, the silver for the Superintendents of the various Homes, and bronze for the Nurses. The brassard for the arms, in dark and light blue, is very decorative.

A district bag, arranged by Miss Alexander, appears to be very good, and of light weight. From its flat shape one would think it would be admirably adapted for strapping on a bicycle. A little model bed, sent by Nurse Gay, would be an excellent suggestion for District Nursing. The tick is stuffed with oat chaff, which is beautifully soft and comfortable, and from its cheapness would be excellent for use in confinement and infectious cases.

The Children's Ward of the Evelina Hospital is very prettily carried out; while a beautiful doll, sent by the Matron of the Hertford Hospital in Paris, swaddled in French fashion and garbed in white satin and lace, would rouse the envy of any little girl versed in doll-value! A doll, clad in a flannel massage dress which opens at shoulders, at sides and back so as to allow the part massaged to be instantly covered seems good.

Messrs. Burroughs and Wellcome have a fascinating array of Tabloids and Invalid Foods. Prominence is also given to their Thermo Safeguard Feeding Bottles. Messrs. Mellin have a show of their admirable foods, as have also the Aylesbury Dairy Company, who show their Humanised Milk, Sterilised Milk and Whey.

On one of the tables is a tin box with all the requirements for a patient's toilet—an excellent idea for private work, as saving the time generally occupied in collecting the various necessary odds and ends. This is shown on the Private Nurses' table, where also appears the Chart and Note-Case devised by the Midwives' Institute.

Messrs. Elliott and Fry have presented a decorative case of photographs of medical celebrities, including the late Sir Andrew Clark, Sir Morell Mackenzie, Sir Joseph Lister, Dr. Playfair, Dr. Bantock, Sir Richard Quain, and others—very fine likenesses.

There is a bookstall, containing many new books and periodicals dealing with Nursing subjects. The Exhibition will be open daily from 2.30 to 7.30 p.m. (Fridays 2.30 to 10 p.m.) until Thursday, October 31st. The admission is 6d., and the surplus is to be devoted to the funds of the Trained Nurses' Club. A very modest expenditure will secure an excellent cup of tea.

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