

shop to bed." There are also thousands of weary Nurses whose daily routine is "from bed to ward, and from ward to bed," and yet they rarely complain.

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The "Chemist" winds up his list of complaints very sensibly:—"Much has been said, written, and even done, with regard to an eight-hours day for labourers and artisans. Is nothing to be done for us tradesmen, who work equally hard, if not harder, and have in addition the financial and other worries of a business life; or are we as a class to contribute largely to the degeneration of the human race, both physically and mentally?" It is certainly indisputable that the overwork of to-day is causing a large amount of the "degeneration" we hear so much about.

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DR. ARTHUR AULAD, of Tooting, writing to the *Medical Times*, makes an admirable suggestion which should prove very valuable to Nurses. He says:—"It may interest your many readers to try a method of feeding patients which I have long since adopted in practice. I have never seen it mentioned in books on Nursing, or described by anyone, and it is so easy of application that I wonder such means of giving nourishment to adults and children has never been practised or even recommended. One day I was attending a child who struggled violently when any vessel or spoon was brought near her mouth. I filled a small glass syringe with milk and held the nozzle over her mouth as she lay in the semi-recumbent position, pushing the piston and allowing the liquid to fall, drop by drop, into her mouth. Very soon she made no objection to allowing the nozzle to be inserted between the lips, and commenced to draw, as from a teat. I employed this method with adults subsequently, only using a larger syringe—which can be made to order—graduated. It is surprising with what ease and comfort patients can thus be induced to take a large amount of liquids—from a few drops to an ounce at a time. The fact of being able to regulate to a nicety the quantity of fluid which a helpless patient can take, will probably induce all who read my letter to adopt this convenient method of administering fluid nourishment, more especially where they are unable to obtain a 'feeding cup.' Indeed, patients need never even be raised up in bed, but can take whatever is given to them lying down, either on the back or the sides."

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A PHYSICIAN practising in the Transvaal, arguing on the well-known fact that milk is readily absorptive of disease germs, has decided to turn its germ-absorbing power to therapeutic ac-

count; so he has introduced into his practice a novel system of "packs," and now asserts that he has cured persons of small-pox, fevers, diphtheria and other maladies, by simply wrapping them in milk sheets. The patient is laid on a mattress covered with blankets, and is packed in a sheet just large enough to envelop the body. This sheet has first been saturated in a pint and a-half of warm milk, and is applied without wringing. After the pack, which lasts about an hour, the patient is sponged with warm water, or is put into a warm bath. A case of small-pox was, according to this lacteopathist, promptly relieved by this treatment. After the eruption was well out he claims that the milk sheet so quickly drew the poison from the skin as to effect immediate convalescence.

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To judge from Widow Malcolm Beaton, whose death recently took place in the Isle of Skye at the advanced age of 105, the calling of a Nurse is detrimental neither to age nor longevity. In her earlier days—and when such an age is reached the term earlier days covers a very wide range—she was extensively employed as a sick-Nurse among the village folk, and although, doubtless, her methods from the modern point of view were sadly outlandish, her services were very highly valued, and she was regarded as an "auld licht" on all matters pertaining to health and disease.

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THE Deputation of the Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association to the Local Government Board, which was to have taken place on July 2nd, has been deferred owing to the change of Ministry. It is expected that the Association will again approach the Board in the late autumn.

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SIR J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, in his Presidential Address to the British Medical Association, in touching upon the unsatisfactoriness of medical nomenclature, said the giving of a definite name to a symptom tended to shut the door to further enquiry as to what it means. In instancing "Cheyne-Stokes breathing," he said, "When quite a boy I was watching the dying bed of my maternal grandfather, aged 84, who had been afflicted with right hemiplegia and aphasia a few days previously. Of all medical terms I was absolutely ignorant, but that variety of breathing struck me much—as it was likely to do—and after observing several long pauses, I exclaimed to the Nurse, when he had not breathed for over a hundred seconds, 'Surely he is gone now!' To my surprise, the practised old observer replied, as she looked up from her knitting, 'Oh, lor', no, Sir; they never goes

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)