

is felt rising up above the bony line of the pelvis into the belly, as a large round tumour, relief should be at once obtained, even though the bed may be wet, and a constant small flow of urine taking place. The same condition of things may exist even when perfect consciousness is remaining. When the spine has been injured, and all feeling and power of motion below the seat of the injury are lost, the person is as unconscious of his wants with regard to the bowels and bladder, as if he were in a state of complete insensibility.

These remarks apply to very many other cases than fracture of the spine—to all, in fact, in which the patient's consciousness is affected; but having once made them, I hope it will be unnecessary to repeat them at a future time.

All the care mentioned as so essential to guard against bed-sores in the case of fractured thigh, will be equally needful in the present instance, for, in all probability, during many weary weeks, the patient must lie on his back ere relief comes.

SOME EXPERIENCES OF AN ENGLISH NURSE IN INDIA.

ON a pouring wet monsoon morning, in the principal city of the — Presidency, I first entered the compound of an Indian Hospital, and stepped out of my gharri opposite the verandah of a pretty comfortable-looking bungalow, where I was received by the Head of the Nursing Department.

I found this bungalow was not occupied by Nurses, but I had been allotted the use of a bedroom amongst the Nursing Staff in rooms under the Hospital Wards. These rooms having no windows, and being on the ground-floor, the doors were obliged to be left open day and night. Some of them being in the centre had no means of ventilation except through the others, so one was obliged at all hours to dress, bathe, &c., in the most public way.

I can never forget the terror of the nights I spent there, awakened by the immense rats or bandicoots, which gambolled about my room or crept on to my bed. Very often Pariah dogs prowled in and sniffed at me, but these inspired trifling fears, compared to what I felt in thinking of the probability of the entrance of a drunken man or a thief, or of a cobra gliding in, attracted by my light. I am generally considered what they call a strong-minded woman, but I confess to feeling extreme nervousness under these circumstances—so much so, that I got very little sleep during my stay (which happily was short) in that Hospital.

As the Ward floor, which formed my ceiling, had wide crevices in it, foul water and innumerable bugs fell down on me at the most unexpected moment. Finding this objectionable—even though for some years I had, right joyfully, worked amongst the poor in some of the worst London slums—I took my chair, and in the cool of the evening tried sitting outside my door, but, unfortunately, the attendants in the Ward above had evidently found an easy, though primitive, way of getting rid of their used poultices, dressings, &c., by throwing them out of the window, so that I got surrounded by them, as well as having some alighting on my poor head.

I was only a visitor in the Nurses' quarters, and I wish only to give my own personal experiences.

I had my meals with the Nurses, who were principally young women separated from their husbands, and with the education and ideas of some of the ordinary servant-maid class in England.

The food supply was far from being, either in quantity or quality, "all that could be desired," and a constant grumbling about it went on. I felt such an all-consuming hunger, that I tried lying down in the middle of the day and going to sleep, in vain endeavours to appease the pangs; at last I petitioned for a cup of coffee in the afternoon, which I got. The head of the Nursing department spoke to me about the unreasonable grumbings of the Nurses as to their food, and I then told her my feelings on the same subject, and I understand things have been better since.

My next experience was in the same city—a very large Hospital for natives. I only went through this Hospital one day as a visitor with the Nursing Superintendent. It struck me as a very handsome building, with a beautifully tiled floor, but oh! the smells and the sights. The poor creatures looked so dirty and uncared for, and their habits were indescribable. I was told they could not be made to behave more cleanly and decently, but I have since had ample opportunity of proving this wrong. One poor woman, dying from tetanus, had no one near her, and her face was literally covered with flies. Flies rose in clouds from the floor at the sides of the beds, and all that I could observe in so short a visit led me to the conclusion that Nursing in the General Wards of this Hospital was totally neglected.

The next Hospital I visited was under the superintendence of the House Surgeon, who told me his Nurses were all natives. He most courteously took me not only through the Wards, but into the latrines, bath-rooms, &c., and I cannot speak too highly of the extreme neatness, cleanliness, and order in all that I saw.

This Hospital was in the same city, at the same

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