

certainly gave no chance for adhesions to form, and I believed my foot was rapidly getting better. Two days later the treatment was changed, and a "lape" was put on. A large flat stone was brought in, and crude resin was put on it, and crushed by another small stone; an egg and opium was gradually added, and all worked up to a smooth soft mass. Then Tarr having rubbed, oiled, twisted, and pulled my foot to the verge of my endurance, laid the lape on thickly, from the toes to well above the ankle, over this cotton wool and a bandage. It set quickly into a light, firm, and comfortable support. This was done every morning for the next ten days, and daily I was able to use it more, although it was months before all swelling disappeared.

I was much touched by the readiness of these people to do anything for or to amuse me during this time of being partially laid up. One would bring flowers, another large banana palm trees, others the curious weaver-birds nests, others shells, and transformed my tent to a garden, each vying with the other in doing something. Moulji brought me his "gunmotri" to see. This needs a little explanation. The Hindus have a custom, when a baby is born, a Brahmin astrologer is sent for to tell his fate, and according as they are able to pay, this is written down in greater or less detail. Long strips of paper about 8 inches wide are generally used, and may be from a few feet to any length. This is called the "gunmotri," the one surface is covered with cabalistic signs, and designs in colors, and much Sanscrit writing, which few, besides the Brahmins, can read. Moulji's was in one roll of something more than quarter of a mile in length. Dhroo brought me his, one day, a much shorter one, saying he had called a Brahmin to ask him if he might come back from the gardens to live in his house in the village on the morrow. The Brahmin read that it was a good day to move, but that his family and the most important of his furniture must be in the house before 9 a.m., after this all must bathe and go the temple of Rawalpi to pray to God. He carried out every detail to the letter.

About this time the bajerie was ripening. It is one of the chief grain crops of the Cutchees. Ground to a flour, it is used to make their roti or unleavened bread. The crop looks well, growing some five or six feet high, with green blades given off at intervals, the grain being small, round corn, closely packed on a long pod or head. When being harvested, they cut off each head close up separately, and later reap the stalks, which form the winter fodder of the cattle.

One day there was a report that the locusts were coming, and in the distance a dark, cloud-like mass was seen advancing. These voracious little creatures are much dreaded by the people, who, for the most part, watched their approach apathetically; some few did make a great noise, and tried to scare them away as they settled on their fields, but with scanty success. I asked Dhroo could nothing be done, "Nothing it is the will of God," he said quietly. By this time they were everywhere, filling the tent, striking one's face, covering the trees and all vegetation.

It was fortunate for some reason known to themselves, that they remained only about an hour, moving off *en masse* as at a given signal. Short as the time was, they had done irretrievable damage to all standing crops, some of the acacia trees were stripped of foliage, and the young cotton fields in their track also suffered badly.

A. J.

## Preparations, Inventions, etc.

### MESSRS. DAVIES AND LONG.

MESSRS. DAVIES AND LONG, of 48, Dorset Street, Baker Street, always cater for the needs of nurses and pride themselves on showing the latest novelties. They are at present offering some excellent thermometers, the price to nurses being from 3s. to 7s. 6d., which can be shaken down at once. The more expensive ones register the temperature in half a minute, and also magnify the index. It is convenient to know that water beds on sale or hire are supplied here, and we may mention, lastly, an excellent atomiser for oils, price 3s. 6d., which only needs to be seen to be bought.

### MESSRS. DEBENHAM AND FREEBODY.

THE bright gleams of sunshine, notwithstanding the bitter cold, warn us that spring is coming on apace, and that our garments which passed muster in the dull winter days are sadly shabby; but what does it matter when we are thereby furnished with a legitimate excuse for inspecting the various novelties that are offered for our choice? The nursing requisites of Messrs. Debenham and Freebody are always welcome, as they may be relied on for good wear and workmanship. This firm is making in their Imperial and Foule cloths several cloaks of new designs, such as the Curzon, price 49s. 6d., and the Seymour, 42s. For print dresses the striped zephyrs, at 9d. per yard, and specially heavy, are excellent, they wear better than ordinary zephyr and are at the same time lighter than galatea. The Oxford cloth, in blue, red, and gray, at 6¾d. and the Cunard cloth in blue and red at 8½d. are also good materials and all are guaranteed to wash well. Messrs. Debenham and Freebody have been selected to provide the uniform of the Alexandra Nurses, which has been approved by H.R.H. the Princess of Wales. The dresses are of grey cotton, the cloak of dark blue Foule fastened with regulation gilt buttons. It consists of a skirt with which is worn a blue and red belt, and a circular cloak with turn-over collar. The bonnet is Marie Stuart in shape, trimmed with blue and red ribbon.

Any nurse who is going to the tropics cannot do better than inspect the underwear shown by this firm, in silk and merino, and quite unshrinkable. The vests are from 4s. 11d., combinations from 8s. 9d. For hard wear at home the Llama stockings at 2s. 11d., and the Vicuna at 2s. 9d., are specially recommended. The latter have double toes, soles and heels, and are soft and pleasant to touch. Hospital Matrons will be glad to know that Messrs. Debenham make a speciality of house linen, which is supplied at the lowest wholesale prices.

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