

Practical Points.

This patent bedstead has recently been made by Messrs. **Chorlton's New Patent "Labour" Bedstead.** Isaac Chorlton & Co., Blackfriars Street, Manchester, specially for the new St. Mary's, Maternity Hospital, Manchester, to suit the doctors' requirements.

Sketch A shows the bed as an ordinary hospital bed, fitted with a comfortable resilient woven wire mattress.

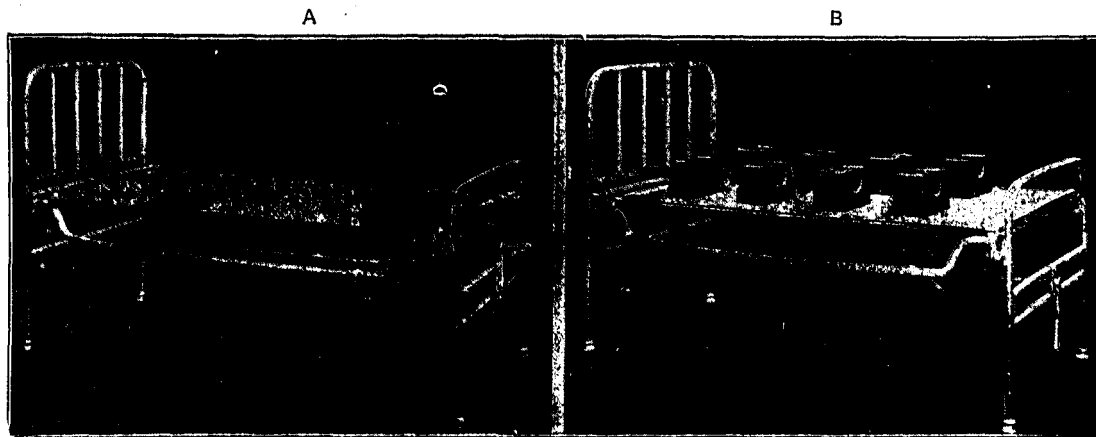
Sketch B shows it when the zinc-covered table (or support) is raised close to the woven wire, giving the rigid support required for operations.

After an operation the table is lowered to the position shown in A without the slightest disturbance to the patient, who then rests comfortably on the spring surface.

The head rail above the spring surface is made

A Tube for Continuous Intestinal Drainage.

In occlusions of the colon from cancer, which always require a secondary resection, says the *Examiner*, it is important not to infect the abdominal wall, as this would increase the risk of a secondary radical operation. If now an artificial anus has been established, the evacuations take place upon the abdominal surface, which is constantly soiled. The advantages of siphon drainage have been appreciated ever since its employment by Paul, and the majority of surgeons now insert a tube into the lumen of the artificial anus. This procedure, however, is inconvenient, because of the impossibility of easily cleansing and changing the apparatus and because of the risk of intestinal gangrene and protrusion of the mucous membrane. To obviate these disadvantages Prof. Jaboulay, of Lyons, has devised a tube for intestinal drainage which is easily introduced and kept in position without sutures. The apparatus consists of two hard rubber tubes of different calibre,



CHORLTON'S NEW PATENT "LABOUR" BEDSTEAD.

to lift off for convenience of doctor or nurse. The foot rail may also be so made if required.

The bedstead is extra strong in all its parts. The head and foot ends are made of welded tubes rivetted (not cast) together.

The extra strong welded tube sides are deeply cranked for convenience of the doctor when operating, and are connected to the end rails by Chorlton's Patent "Radial Grip" Corner, by which the end rails are always and under all circumstances maintained in an upright position.

The value of this bed for surgical as well as maternity cases is appreciated and acknowledged by members of the profession who have seen it.

No one knows better than a nurse the importance of a firm bed for a labour case, and we feel sure there are many Matrons of institutions who will be glad to know of the simple and satisfactory method devised by Messrs. Chorlton for ensuring a perfectly firm and non-sagging mattress. We think the bedstead has only to be well known to be widely used and appreciated. Next week we hope to describe a caster which may be used with this bedstead.

one fitting snugly into the other. Each of the tubes terminates at one end in a flange. The flange of the inner tube is inserted into the intestinal lumen and prevents the protrusion of the mucosa of the gut. The flange of the external tube adapts itself to the abdominal surface, thus preventing too deep penetration into the intestinal canal. In applying this apparatus the flange of the inner tube is grasped in the blades of a long forceps and then inserted into the intestine. When the pressure of the forceps is relaxed the flange resumes its former shape. The outer tube is passed through the thickness of the abdominal wall, its flange being perforated so that a string can be fastened to it which encircles the abdomen. It is sufficient to attach a soft rubber tube to the apparatus which hangs into a siphon in order to establish drainage. After the third or fourth day, when the feces become solid, the tube may either be removed or lavage made through it, and the intestines thus cleansed out.

In order that the tube may fit perfectly, it is necessary to select one of which the calibre is a little greater than that of the orifice of the artificial anus.

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