

being used for cleansing purposes, as the skin is too tender to bear frequent washings with water.

In placing the child in his bed, be sure to reverse his position each time. Handle as little as possible, and avoid tub baths until the child has gained strength and resistance. If the babe goes into a profound sleep after a tub bath, it is an indication to discontinue them until he is stronger.

There is no set time for taking the child out of cotton and dressing him in full; we must be guided by his condition. The condition also will indicate when to lower the temperature of the room, which should be done gradually.

The Treatment of Wounds by Sunlight.

A very interesting use of sunlight as an agent in the healing of wounds has recently, says the *Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette*, been brought out by a Swiss physician. For some time past Dr. Bernhard, of Samaden, Switzerland, has treated almost all granulating wounds under his charge by exposure to sun and air, for periods of not less than an hour at a time. He makes use of no apparatus whatever. Owing to the height of the sanatorium at which this method is employed the air is pure and rarefied. His reports show that the largest granulating wounds rapidly improve under the combined influence of dry air and sun, discharges are soon arrested, and the wounds become covered with scab. A great variety of wounds have thus far been subjected to this method by Dr. Bernhard, with most excellent results—wounds caused by explosions and crushing, chronic ulcers of the legs and arms, and scrofuloderma.

Legal Matters.

A CHARGE OF OBTAINING BOARD AND LODGING ON FALSE PRETENCES.

A strange tale was told to the magistrates at the Kingston County Court when Elizabeth Fletcher and Isabella MacRae were charged with having been concerned together in obtaining board and lodging from Caroline Fiedler on false pretences.

In support of the charge Mrs. Fiedler gave evidence as to the inspection of the rooms by the two women. They desired to take up their quarters at once, saying their luggage would follow. She understood that Mrs. MacRae was a professional nurse, and had been engaged at the Kingston Infirmary. Mrs. MacRae mentioned the names of several prominent persons, and also said that she had been associated with the Royal Scottish Corporation, London, and that her husband was an army chaplain and they had taken a house at Hampton.

As their luggage did not arrive Mrs. Fiedler presented her account. Mrs. MacRae said it was very tiresome all her friends were away, and she did not know when she would get her cheque. On information subsequently received Mrs. Fiedler decided to prosecute.

The following extraordinary episode then took place. Pointing to the Rev. Alexander MacRae, Chaplain to the Royal Scottish Corporation, who was

present in court, Mrs. MacRae explained, "That's my husband, there."

Mr. MacRae (indignantly): "It is an absolute falsehood."

Mrs. MacRae: "It is not, Alexander. Don't say such things." (To the Chairman), "He has denied it so many times."

The Rev. Alexander MacRae then stepped into the witness box and said that the defendant, whose real name was Salmond came to his church nine years ago with an introduction from Edinburgh, and he received her in the usual way. Subsequently she wrote to him saying she intended to marry him and if he did not marry her she would see that he was turned out of his church. Letters of an insane type poured in and he put up with it until Miss Salmond swore before a magistrate that she was married to him in Edinburgh on a day he could prove he spent in London.

He then took legal advice, and the accused signed a document in which she promised not to annoy him. After a short time she continued to do so as much as ever. He had been informed by the police that the defendants had been arrested, and he therefore appeared.

Eventually the accused were remanded to Holloway and instructions were given that the state of Mrs. MacRae's mind should be inquired into.

Nothing is known of Mrs. MacRae at the Kingston Infirmary and it is impossible to ascertain whether she has had any training as a nurse.

Is it not nearly time that we had a State Register of Nurses by means of which such information would be readily obtainable?

A DISGRACEFUL CASE.

The details of the painful suit of a medical man for a divorce from his wife have been published in the daily press and need not here be gone into. Suffice it to say that the petitioner obtained a decree nisi, the suit being undefended. The important points, so far as the nursing world are concerned, are that the divorced woman, then a widow named Saxelby, contracted a marriage in 1899 at a Registrar's Office with her husband when he was a medical student at a London hospital, and she was a nurse in the same institution. She subsequently resumed her nursing, the marriage being kept secret. In 1901 she joined her husband, but was constantly away. On one occasion the wife informed her husband that she had married her cousin before she married Mr. Saxelby, which he did not believe. In 1904 she informed him, after being out all day, that she had been persuaded to marry a Mr. Laird. He disregarded the statement at the time, but it proved to be true. The wife left her husband's house on June 27th, 1904, and shortly afterwards she and the co-respondent sailed for New Zealand as Mr. and Mrs. Laird. As it was stated that the respondent had an allowance under the Saxelby marriage settlement, the President made an order condemning her in costs.

How do the authorities of the hospital where this nurse was trained propose to prevent her from resuming her occupation of a nurse and entering the houses of the public in this capacity?

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