

and world-worn. The baby was the only happy one of the group. He was like an animated chocolate doll, and seemed very comfortable if a little "smelly" in his nude state on his mother's bare back. This woman was the fourth wife of a chief some miles away, and a witch doctor had been trying to cure the children's eyes for a long time. She hoped the white man was a magician who could touch the children's eyes and make them well. A little boracic acid lotion was used to wash the younger children's eyes. The eldest boy ran across the veldt like a little field rabbit, and hid when his turn came for treatment, so he had to be left alone. The woman was then given a little weak Condy's fluid, and told to bathe the eyes when the sun rose, when he was so high, and when he went away. As she left we remembered with thankfulness that Condy's was harmless, and that Nature was a wonderfully skilled doctor if not interfered with.

A child who had been burnt a week ago when the mother was at a beer drink was our next case. The mother was so stupid after a week's beer drinking that she took little notice of the advice given. The child died shortly afterwards while both parents were at a neighbouring kraal drinking beer.

A man came with a cough, and a boy with a poisoned foot. The abscess was opened on the door step. We went in for open-air treatment fully there. The boy made a speedy recovery. A mother brought an infant that was not thriving. It was hand-fed, fortunately a very rare thing among Kaffirs. Its food consisted of an occasional handful of roasted Kaffir corn, a grain resembling our wheat. We advocated ground meal well boiled. Milk was out of the question; it is not used by Kaffirs until it has been shaken in skin bottles and soured. Out of compliment to my narrow views, the missionary told the woman in her own language to use it, but it was so against Kaffir tradition that we saw it was hopeless, and trusted the baby would enjoy its fistfuls of meal pap.

A big, burly Kaffir wanted medicine for a foot—not his own. He had not the remotest idea what was the matter, and thought us very ignorant for inquiring. "Have you not medicine for feet?" he asked. His opinion of the British nation in general and of missionaries in particular was much lowered by finding that we had not.

There were bad legs galore, and several sufferers from toothache. The missionary holds that tooth extraction is a means of grace to the Kaffir. It is the only thing for which he is willing to pay.

A medicine chest was on its way to us, but the only thing we then had in stock was a little Carron oil, Chili paste, Epsom salts, and a pill box of boracic acid powder. Our favourite prescription was Epsom salts and ground ginger, the latter from the missionary's pantry.

MAOQ ALL.

(To be continued.)

A monument is to be erected to Dr. Finsen, the discoverer of the treatment of lupus by rays.

New Preparations, &c.

MALTICO AND CREMALTO.

For some three months a well-known Hospital physician has been good enough, at our suggestion, to test two new preparations, to which, from the evidence now before us, we call the earnest attention of trained nurses. The first of these is *Maltico*, which is stated to be prepared only from the purest milk and the most nutritive malted cereals. It is a fine yellowish powder which dissolves easily in hot water, and is thus prepared for use. *Cremalto* is a brown treacly material, which is stated to be prepared from the finest Devonshire cream. The following is the report with which we have been favoured on these preparations. "Maltico is easily prepared by the mere addition of hot water, and it is very palatable—two great advantages in the treatment both of infants and invalids. I have ordered it now for a number of babies who were unable to take ordinary milk, and in two cases where other and well-known Foods had been tried without success. In every instance Maltico agreed well, and the child quickly gained strength and flesh while taking it. I have reason to believe, therefore, that this new preparation will prove a valuable aid in those cases in which the baby's stomach seems instinctively to rebel against being deprived of its natural food. I have also prescribed Maltico in about twenty cases of adults who were suffering from gastric disease, and in which an easily digestible and highly nutritious food was of the first importance. In only one of these cases, and that was a patient suffering from advanced malignant disease in which the stomach would not retain even water, did Maltico fail. In all the others, the patient took and retained it well, and improved steadily whilst doing so. I consider, therefore, that there should be a wide field of usefulness for this new preparation amongst adults, as well as amongst infants. With regard to *Cremalto*, which I have prescribed somewhat widely for cases in which cod liver oil was indicated, the only objection I have heard raised to it was that it was so sweet. With most patients this proved to be an additional advantage. In every case it was taken well, and appeared also to assist the digestion and improve the appetite. If, on further experience, this proves to be a general effect of *Cremalto*, I need not point out its superiority to cod liver oil, or the other fats which are usually prescribed in these cases, and which unfortunately tend to impair the appetite, or by rendering the patient subject to 'bilious attacks,' minimise the benefits of the oil."

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