

FIG. 12.—BATTERY (CELLS IN PARALLEL OR MULTIPLE ARC).

The cells of a battery are sometimes connected in groups, two or more in parallel in each group, and the groups in series.

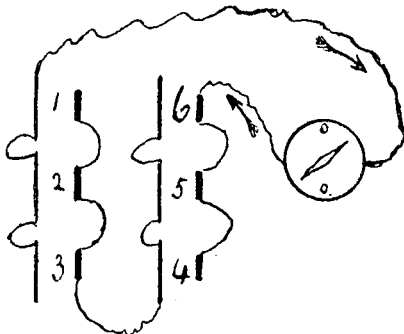


FIG. 13.—BATTERY (CELLS IN GROUPS).

Fig. 13 is a diagram of six cells connected in two groups of three each. The cells of each group are connected in *parallel*, and the groups are connected in *series*. A battery is thus formed, having an E.M.F. equal to that of two cells, and capable of giving considerable current strength.

The practical use of arranging batteries in different ways will be shown more fully after the terms E.M.F., Current-strength, and Resistance have been explained.

(To be continued.)

PHYSICIAN (to patient): "Your case is a very serious one, sir, and I think a consultation had better be held." Patient (too sick to care for anything): "Very well, doctor, have as many accomplices as you like."

"ON AN UNPOPULAR BRANCH OF OUR PROFESSION."

BY MISS MOLLETT.

Being a Paper read before the British Nurses' Association.

I PURPOSE to-night to say a few words regarding Workhouse Infirmary Nursing, a branch of our profession which is not, as a rule, popular either with the public or ourselves. Whether justly or unjustly, rightly or wrongly, it is not looked upon favourably by the great majority of Nurses, and there is a strong feeling amongst those Hospital trained Nurses who *do* turn their attention to it, that they are doing very self-sacrificing work, and that somebody or other ought to be very much obliged to them for so doing.

That such a feeling is wrong and unhealthy, and that it must tend to retard proper development, there can be no two opinions; and that it can exist entirely without reason is not to be supposed. Many of the prejudices, it is true, arise from recollections of old days, when Infirmaries were terribly and woefully mismanaged, and from ignorance of their present greatly improved conditions, as well as from the conceit and narrow-mindedness of those Nurses who, trained in one Hospital school, cling to the letter and miss the spirit their training should have enforced, and can see no good in their new sphere of work. But the impossibility of the development of Infirmary management and Nursing beyond a certain point results mainly from the retention in their management of rules enforced by yards of red tape, that are singularly destitute of the necessary elasticity to conform to new ideas and modern views, as well as in causes which nothing but a thorough revisal of the whole Poor Law—I had almost said human nature—can remove.

Carlyle says: "It is a calumny on men to say that they are roused to heroic action by ease, hope of pleasure, recompense—sugar plums of any kind in this world, or the next"—and that is very true. Difficulties, keen trouble, great battles seldom daunt human beings, and can always command heroes; but the dulness of a restricted and limited sphere of duties, without fame or excitement, act like an effectual damper on the most glowing enthusiasm. Women will always remain human; saints are few and far between. Nurses like prominent positions or interesting work, the pleasure of working in the reflected glory of great scientific names, as well as others; and I have often found that those who most energetically profess their intense eagerness to nurse the poor in any capacity, have often the

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