

a thousand and one difficulties. Among them was not, as has been sometimes stated, any opposition from the medical staff. Its members recognised from the first her real knowledge and great abilities, and she in her turn fully appreciated their labours. Throughout her evidence at the subsequent commission of enquiry she steadfastly laid the blame for the breakdown which had arisen on the shoulders of the War Office itself."

THE LANCET.

The *Lancet* says:—"By her initiative, by her achievements, by her example, Florence Nightingale will stand for all time as the pioneer of skilled and scientific nursing; no less will her kindness of heart and tenderness of touch, sympathy of soul and desire to serve the sick and afflicted pass into the region of history. The primal qualities, without which no woman is a nurse—be her uniform and training what they may—were as fully developed in her as her powers of organisation and her ability to think largely. Susceptibility to the sorrows of others and capability to nurse the sick and suffering we have in abundance, and there is not a day nor an hour in which many patients do not feel that they have been bountifully blessed in the nursing administration placed at their disposal; but the career and personality of Florence Nightingale are so important, because in her, the apostle of scientific nursing, it was proved that such nursing does not consist in the exhibition of lovable or dutiful characteristics, needful though these are, but requires the recognition of the futility of any struggle against disease which is not based upon a knowledge of the physical causes which underlie disease, and a recognition of the hopelessness of remedies not directed to the removal of such causes. With the advance of medical and surgical knowledge the art of nursing has become more complicated. Newer and better methods have replaced the old, and a higher measure of general and technical education is required from women who contemplate entry into the ranks of trained nurses. But the underlying principles are the same as those which guided Florence Nightingale in her splendidly successful efforts to elevate the profession of nursing into an organised and scientific calling. . . . Not the least of Florence Nightingale's achievements was that of awakening the official mind to the necessity in medical things of seeking, accepting, and acting upon the opinions and recommendations of sanitary and medical experts. She showed in a way that it was impossible not to understand the value of trained and enlightened special knowledge.

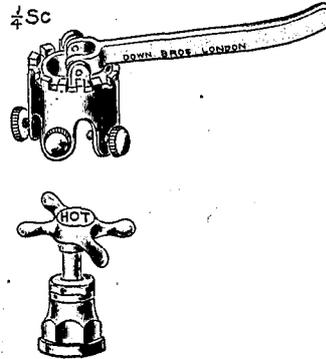
Practical Points.

SOME NEW APPLIANCES.

We have pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to some new appliances recently brought out by Messrs. Down Bros., Ltd., St. Thomas's Street, S.E.

A Surgical Tap Lever. (Registered).

This ingenious contrivance, suggested by Mr. James Shaw, M.B., Belfast, will supply a want that must frequently arise in operating or dressing wounds in private houses, or in cottage hospitals and nursing homes, where the water supply is delivered through ordinary screw taps. This admirable little instrument immediately converts such a tap into one suitable for a surgeon's use. The invention consists of a lever attached to a revolving disc, surrounded by a ring; this ring having four large notches in its lower edge to fit over the limbs of the ordinary screw-tap, and a series of small notches round its upper edge, in any of which the lever first mentioned will engage, so as to carry the ring, and consequently the tap



handle, round with it at practically any point of its circumference. The fitting should be adjusted to the tap, which is quickly and accurately done by screwing home the four screws placed between the large notches that take the tap "wings," and the tap can then be opened or closed at pleasure by a push from the operator's elbow. A spring under the lever releases it from its notch when the pressure is withdrawn in readiness to engage in another notch, and thus either unscrew the tap further to increase the flow, or, in the opposite sense, close the tap, as preferred.

A New Face Screen.

The following description of this useful face screen is given by Mr. Wm. Ibbotson, M.R.C.S.: "The accompanying drawing represents a shield for the mouth and nose which Messrs. Down Bros. have made for me. It is very simple in construction, being extremely light and consisting of a framework of plated copper upon which a layer of batiste is stretched. At the upper end are two curved wire ear pieces. In the alternative model these latter are replaced by loops made of elastic, which are more convenient for nurses. The whole shield is sterilisable to any extent, and can be used for the following purposes—viz. (1) Examination of mouth, nose, larynx, etc. (2) For all operations, especially those on the mouth, nose, and larynx, such as removal of tonsils and adenoids, tracheotomy, etc. (3) For

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