

Christmas time very generously gave 200 red flannel jackets.

It is needless to say how much these garments are appreciated by the matron and her staff.

The Medical Supply Association moved into its new premises at 167, Gray's Inn Road, on Monday last. Nurses should not fail to visit the new establishment where the many desirable medical and nursing requisites and appliances can be seen to much greater advantage than in the former premises.

#### USEFUL ANATOMICAL MODELS.

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to the admirable coloured Anatomical Models and Physiological Diagrams, published by Messrs. Allman & Son, Ltd., 67, New Oxford Street, London, W. They are issued in a very convenient form, and arranged most clearly to illustrate the construction of the body. Thus, in the model of the hand, we have first the dorsum of the hand in its entirety, then the tendons, deep-seated arteries, bony skeleton, nerves and muscles in successive layers. The head, foot and internal organs are similarly dealt with. They must, however, be seen for their beauty to be appreciated. The Female Human Body, in movable manikin form, with letterpress key, is also most useful; while the Pocket Anatomical Atlas should be in the possession of every probationer and first aid student. The same firm publish a popular handbook on Home Nursing, by Miss Margery Homersham, price 3d.; and one on first aid to the injured, at the same price, by a medical officer.

#### PROFESSIONAL REVIEW.

##### GYNÆCOLOGICAL NURSING.

"Gynæcological Nursing," by Dr. Arthur E. Giles, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., surgeon to the Chelsea Hospital for Women, and gynæcologist to the Prince of Wales' General Hospital, Tottenham, is a most valuable handbook for nurses on this branch of their work. It should be assimilated by those in training, and consulted by nurses, however great their experience, who desire to acquaint themselves with the latest methods. It is published by Messrs. Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C., price 3s. 6d.

In his introduction the author describes the "perfect gynæcological nurse," and his portrait is, he states, drawn from life.

He expresses his indebtedness to Miss E. Margaret Fox, Matron of the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham, and to Miss Ada Simmonds, until recently Sister in the same institution, and to Miss Annie Howard, Sister at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, for their valuable assistance, and also to Messrs. Allen & Hanburys, and to the

Medical Supply Association for their courtesy in lending blocks for illustration.

The book deals with the anatomy and physiology of the pelvic organs, and then with their diseases. Tumours are described as being of two kinds, cystic and solid. Of the former the most important found in the pelvis are ovarian cysts, which may be unilocular, multilocular, or dermoid. In regard to solid tumours we are told that "just as cysts develop in places where there are cavities, so solid tumours develop from the solid tissues. Any part of the body can only grow tumours composed of the same elements as are contained in that part of the body. A tumour is formed by the multiplication of cells of the same kind as those present where the tumour is growing. In other words, the tissue cells breed true." The various varieties are then described.

Referring to the two discoveries of the last century, anæsthesia and antiseptics, the author remarks that as regards antiseptics the surgeon absolutely depends on the co-operation of the nurse. In the preparation for an operation, and in the after treatment, antiseptics is the first and last necessity for safe and successful surgery. Sepsis, antiseptics, and aseptics are then discussed in detail.

In connection with the after treatment of abdominal operations, Dr. Giles has a saline injection at a temperature of 105 deg. F. given as a matter of routine, and only countermands it in certain cases, as when there is a risk of oozing from adhesion sites. The saline counteracts shock, and diminishes the tendency to thirst. The mouth may, he says, be washed out frequently with hot water, either plain, or slightly flavoured with lemon, sal volatile, or brandy, in order to help to remove the taste of the anæsthetic.

After mentioning the drugs which may be given to alleviate pain and restlessness, Dr. Giles prohibits morphia as very dangerous after an abdominal operation. He prefers the patient nursed in Fowler's position, *i.e.*, sitting up almost vertically with a bed rest as soon as she recovers consciousness, and says, "patients get great relief from this posture. They are able to sleep, they show less tendency to sickness, and the backache is almost entirely done away with."

In regard to food in the absence of sickness, the author allows drinks of hot water within a few hours, and six to eight hours after the operation a small drink of milk tea.

In regard to the passing of water, Dr. Giles says, "It is the refinement of cruelty in such a case to insist on a bedpan drill at fixed hours. The patient's requirements must be complied with however exacting or even capricious she may appear." Dr. Giles condemns the use of a surgical belt. It is "heavy and cumbersome, and discourages the abdominal muscles from recovering their normal tone." On the other hand, he says that many patients derive great benefit from massage, and when they get up are markedly stronger than those who have had none.

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