

washing the back once or twice a day, and rubbing with brandy or any spirits that harden the skin. No bread crumbs allowed to be about the bed; under sheets kept perfectly straight and as smooth as possible. *Treatment.*—If the patient had a bed-sore very bad and sloughing, a charcoal poultice acts as a good disinfectant, *charcoal poultice* being made in following manner for an ordinary bed sore:—4oz. of bread crumbs well boiled, 2oz. of linseed, 1½oz. of charcoal; mix well up; when spread on a cloth sprinkle a little charcoal on top.

**SKIN.**—It is well to observe the condition of the skin. In different diseases the skin may be found to be hot, dry and clammy. In rheumatism the patient breaks out in profuse sour sweats; in jaundice the skin becomes yellow, and in Addison's disease it becomes copper colour.

**EXPECTORATION.**—In cases of pneumonia, bronchitis, asthma, phthisis and other diseases there is much expectoration. It is most necessary to notice the quantity and quality and the colour. In pneumonia it is viscid, tenacious, sticks to the sides of the expectoration cup, and of rusty appearance—if of a prune colour death soon occurs; in bronchitis it is frothy, abundant, and often streaked with black, and of a greenish yellow colour from the presence of pus; in consumption the expectoration varies from a small quantity of frothy fluid to abundant greenish-yellow offensive phlegm or sputum, often streaked with blood.

**RESPIRATION.**—Respiration consists of two parts, *respiration* and *expiration*. A healthy person breathes from fifteen to eighteen times a minute; often the breathing causes great distress. In bronchitis is quick and wheezing, the patient feels stuffed, the nostrils dilate; in asthma the breathing is very painful, often the patient remains for hours gasping for breath. The patient should have plenty of fresh air.

**GENERAL REMARKS.**—A patient's face more or less alters during the illness; particular notice should be taken of outward appearance; the eyes look sunken, nose pinched, lips pale and livid, often coated thickly with a brown viscid substance. Often the face is much swollen in the morning, especially if the patient is suffering from Bright's disease or anasarca.

**OBSERVATION.**—Nurses should train themselves to observation, report any change, no matter how slight it may appear, to the Physician, bearing in mind that the Physician only sees the patient for a short time, and often his footstep on the stairs causes the patient to become flushed and excited. If the Physician cannot stay until the patient has calmed down, he may go away with an erroneous impression with regard to the case.

(To be continued.)

## NURSING ECHOES.

\*.\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

PUBLIC interest in, and excitement about, the London Hospital scandals is steadily increasing.



The *Pall Mall* continues to print many very strong letters against, a few painfully feeble effusions in favour of, the existing management; and it is currently reported that as the Committee has apparently, ostrich-like, hid its head, and at any rate shows no disposition to move in the only possible direction of repentance and reform, some very strong measures are to be taken as soon as Parliament meets, if not before, to prove to these gentlemen that the public holds them responsible for the welfare of the Nurses and of the patients, as well as for the proper expenditure of the princely revenues with which the charitable have entrusted them.

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THE Matron's defence has caused dismay amongst the staunchest supporters of the Hospital, because it so carefully omits to reply to any one of the charges advanced against the Nursing Department, and is in other respects one of the most feeble literary productions the *New Review* has yet admitted into its columns. It has, however, caused no small amusement to some critics, who unmercifully laugh at its grammatical innocence. Those, however, who read it in connection with the Blue Book take a much more serious view of the matter. One of the most biting critiques which I have seen appeared in the *Observer* of October 5, and may be commended to the Committee of the London Hospital as a fresh expression of what the public at large is saying about them. It is as follows:—

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"In the *New Review* Miss Lückes writes on 'Trained Nurses.' In answer to the attack on the bad treatment her Nurses receive at her hands, the lady says the London Hospital is open, and we can come and see for ourselves. Unfortunately the Blue Book on the subject, with Miss Lückes's evidence, is also open, and in it we have read for ourselves quite enough to justify us in saying that no young woman of gentle breeding ought to be permitted by her parents to take service as a Nurse in the London Hospital."

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