

## PROFESSIONAL REVIEW.

## " PRACTICAL BANDAGING." \*

The manual of "Practical Bandaging," including Adhesive Dressings and Plaster of Paris Bandages, by Dr. E. L. Eliason, A.B., Assistant Instructor in Surgery in the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, recently published by the Lippincott Company, is an admirable exposition of the whole subject, and should be widely studied. Its value is considerably increased by 155 fine illustrations, which indicate clearly the methods described by the author, and by the kindness of the publishers we are able to reproduce two of these.

In his preface the author states that "an endeavour has been made to clear up a number of points in the application of bandages, that have been more or less indefinitely presented heretofore. All the recognised classical bandages in common use are described. In addition, however, the author has added paragraphs or illustrations of methods or turns which have been found more efficient in his experience. . . .

"Due to the increasing usage of gauze bandage, the pliability of which covers a multitude of sins, there is a tendency to neglect the fundamental principles of bandaging. One should remember that every bandage properly applied takes less material, retains its place better, and gives a much better impression than one improperly applied. . . .

"The work is meant merely to describe the various dressings and their application. No attempt has been made to consider the indications for such dressings."

The subject is discussed under five sections:—

- (1) Roller Bandages; (2) Miscellaneous Bandages,
- (3) Elastic Bandages, (4) Adhesive Dressings,
- (5) Plaster of Paris or Gypsum Bandages.

## FUNDAMENTAL FACTS.

Concerning the fundamental facts connected with roller bandages we read: "A roller bandage

\* J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, and 16, John Street, Adelphi, London. 6s. net.

is a strip of material of any width or length rolled upon itself to form a compact body. It may be rolled from one end, single roller, or both ends, double roller. When the word bandage is spoken of, unqualified, a single roller is meant. The roller has an upper and lower edge, an inner and outer surface, a body, an initial or free end, and a terminal or hidden end.

The purposes of a bandage are to retain dressing, to render support, and to make compression.

"The material composing the bandage depends on the purpose of the bandage. Bandages for retaining dressings are of gauze or muslin. Gauze is oftenest used as it is soft and pliable and lends itself easily to the shape of the part covered. Flannel and sheet wadding are used for protective dressings, as, for example, beneath plaster of Paris. Crinoline or tarlatan is used in the production of the common plaster of Paris bandages for fixation dressing or 'cast' of a permanent nature, as for fractures and dislocations. Elastic bandages are employed for compression either as a tourniquet or for general uniform pressure, as in treatment of leg ulcers, varicose veins of leg, joint affections, shock and hæmorrhage."

REQUISITES OF A BANDAGE.

In relation to the requisites of a bandage we read: "The desired result should be accomplished with the least turns possible. All similar turns

should, as far as possible, have the same distance between them, and their edges as near parallel as possible. Each turn must be evenly and firmly applied, showing no wrinkles or ravellings or gaps between turns. The surface of the bandage must be flat on the part bandaged. If applied too loosely the bandage displaces easily. If applied too tightly, it is uncomfortable, and may obstruct the blood supply, causing swellings, discolouration, numbness and tingling, pallor, coldness, or subsequent gangrene if tight enough to shut off blood supply. In applying turns near a joint care should be taken to have the joint in the position in which it is to remain after the dressing is completed. Special care must be taken with regard to bony prominences that they are well



FIGURE OF 8 OF THE BREAST.

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