

can be constantly renewed. One of the most important items in the sick room is the firestove, and from personal experience I can recommend Doulton's china stoves, which have a base and grate of fire-brick, with only three iron bars, easily removed and quickly cleaned. The tiled hearth and china stove can be washed and polished without noise. Furniture must be made to order: American walnut suites are handsome and useful—a Beaconsfield wardrobe, with cupboard for Nurses' use, which should be fitted with every surgical appliance necessary; washstand, with two drawers for medicine cloths, rubbers and dusters, and one cupboard to hold the necessary utensils; dressing table; two chairs; *square* night stool; one bent-wood rocking chair for Nurse and one well-stuffed couch or lounge chair for patient; one *ring* stand, bed rest, and bed table, and the furniture, except *g* the bed, is complete. The bed is, of course, of paramount importance; it should be of brass, standing on large *brass* castors, 3ft. wide and 6ft. 6in. long, a mattress of woven steel and wire, overlay of well-stuffed hair, and soft and hard pillows of ample size. The bed covering is very important, sick people requiring warmth without weight; *good* blankets should be obtained, about £1 5s. per pair. Instead of a close cotton quilt, a twilled cotton sheet, covered by an ecru lace quilt, is very convenient; the sheet can be often changed, and is very light. Dark green holland blinds are best, and short blinds and curtains of ecru lace. If Sister Catherine is going to superintend her own Home of eight beds, she will require a staff of six Nurses to help her, four for day duty and two for night duty. One of the things she mentions which she has learnt to avoid is doubtless the pernicious habit of keeping a Nurse practically on duty for twenty-four hours at a stretch, by making her sleep in the room of her patient. No Nursing can be well done under such regulations; it is demoralising to both Nurse and patient. "Sister Catherine" will require one *thoroughly good* cook, one kitchen maid, one Ward or house maid, and one parlour maid to wait on herself and

the Nurses. A page will be found of infinite use—and also a thorn in the flesh—but "boys will be boys," and the more he is given to do, the less trouble he will be, for it is certain that if he is not occupied, he will be in mischief.—Yours faithfully,
MATRONA.

[We shall be glad to receive further communications on this interesting subject from our esteemed correspondent and others.—ED.]

MRS. DUYCK.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Sir,—Would you once more remind your readers that the election into the British Home for Incurables, Clapham, takes place on the 12th of November. This is my eighth election, and thanks very greatly to your and your readers' help, I have already received 1,063 votes. Hope deferred maketh the heart grow sick, but I do trust I may be elected this time. Will you once more kindly help me?—Yours faithfully,
SARAH DUYCK.

[We earnestly commend the case of this afflicted Nurse to our readers. If any of them can obtain subscribers' votes, and send them to us, we will gladly acknowledge them, and forward them to Mrs. Duyck.—ED.]

THE POST-CARD EXAMINATIONS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for books safely received this morning. I am very pleased with them.—Faithfully yours,
Richmond, Surrey, Oct. 20. NURSE MORRELL.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Hopeful.—I should certainly advise you *not* to wear gloves; they are not part of uniform, and always look out of place when worn with indoor uniform.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HYGIENE

THE CAUSES OF DECAY OF THE TEETH.

"In the Dental Section, a Lecture was given by MR. HY. SEWILL, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., who said: "Decay is a process of disintegration commencing invariably at the surface of the tooth, and due entirely to external agents. *Acids and Micro-organisms are the active agents.* Fermentation being due to the action of micro-organisms, bacteria must be considered a prime factor in the Causation of Caries."

DR. ANDREW WILSON, F.R.S.E., in "Health," August 7th, 1891, says:—

"Decay was found to commence most readily in flaws or fissures, and the conclusions drawn from the experiments are, that caries is entirely due to external agents (that is, acids generated from the food particles and germs preying on the weakened teeth.)"

In this connection, it might be well to quote from a Pamphlet issued by the SALVINE CO., about two years ago, entitled, "HOW TO PRESERVE THE TEETH."—Entered at Stationers' Hall.

CAN THE TEETH BE PRESERVED A LIFETIME?—

"It is obvious that if a combination could be employed, which although harmless in other respects, should yet be death to micro-organisms, and be a perfect ant-acid, decay and premature loss of the teeth must be reduced to a remarkable extent."

"The obstacles preventing so desirable a combination were to a great extent due to the difficulty of combining many apparent irreconcilable elements."

"We are, however, now happy to state that as a result of the patient experiments of a well-known Dental Surgeon during a period of several years, this preparation has at last been completed."

The above remarks are corroborated, as follows:—

THE LANCET, November 29th, 1890, Extract from "Analytical Records," reports:—

"SALVINE DENTIFRICE is a delicately scented paste, which exhibits an alkaline reaction to test paper. It is perfectly free from injurious elements. From its composition it is evidently *Ant-acid, Astringent, and Anti-Parasitic.* SALVINE is contained in collapsible tubes, the use of which offers *Obvious Advantages.*"

SALVINE DENTIFRICE can be obtained of all First Class Chemists, or free by post from THE SALVINE DEPOT, 3, Oxford Street, London, W. Price 1/-, 1/6, and 2/6.

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