

There were two little sisters in one cot in a ward in which I was, the one 7 years, and the other 7 months. For a week the older one was too ill to take the slightest notice of her little baby sister, who had a very mild attack, and was the pet of the ward. At the end of the week she roused up somewhat to life, but not to a consciousness of the fact that their mother had taken advantage of their stay in the Hospital to desert. Poor little mites, they looked so weak and helpless to cope with the terrors of friendlessness. But someone will be good to them—hardly anything could be worse than to be in the power of such an unnatural mother. Not far from their cot is a little German boy, and yet his eyes are strangely Irish in their beauty. We shall have to wait a while before we tell him that he and two brothers who are not in the Hospital have lost both father and mother in the epidemic, and that he can look forward only to some sheltering Orphan House.

It is distressing to see the rapidity with which bed-sores develop and spread in Cholera cases. There is a curious unwholesome condition of the back; the skin red and tender with, frequently, a pustular rash covering its lower part. With such conditions, added to the constant purging, and want of control over the bowels, it may be imagined there are great difficulties in the way of preventing bed-sores, and these, once formed, tend to increase rapidly owing to the prostration and lowered vitality of the patient. Some of the cases are so bad as to necessitate the sufferer being left continuously immersed in a warm bath, it being impossible otherwise to keep the wound aseptic.

A friend sent me some Christmas numbers of the *Graphic* and *Illustrated News* for the ward, and it pathetic to see the eagerness of the patients awaiting their turn to look over these. Since my appeal in *The Times* I have received a large batch of illustrated papers by each morning's post, and these have been much appreciated. The greater number of our patients are from the most destitute classes, and these fine colored pictures seem to them the luxuries of life indeed. The convalescents are so limp and listless that any interest capable of rousing and diverting them is truly a boon. Some of the convalescents have their beds moved out into the very beautiful grounds of the Eppendorfer and they seem to derive benefit therefrom, returning into the ward with a little color in their haggard faces and a livening of their apathy. I append a *résumé* of the rules carried out in this Hospital, as these may be useful should Cholera cross to our land.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC.

- i. In every sick room, ward, or ante-room, there must be a supply of disinfecting lotion, in which everything taken out may be immersed.
- ii. The lotions consist of: Carbolic Acid lotion 2 p.c., Perchloride Mercury 1-1000.

- iii. In these lotions all articles used by the Patients, sent to be washed, must be immersed for not less than four hours.
- iv. The linen must be taken out of the disinfecting lotion straight to the disinfecting oven, in a sack soaked with Perchloride of Mercury.
- v. The empty bedsteads must be washed with a solution of Perchloride of Mercury 1-1000, before being re-occupied.
- vi. The floors must be washed with lotion of the same strength.
- vii. The clothing of the Patients must be taken, in a cover soaked with disinfectant, to the disinfecting oven.
- viii. Food must not be taken from the ward. Food not used must be disinfected or burnt.
- ix. The Physicians and those in attendance in the wards should, on leaving, carefully wash their hands in a disinfectant.
- x. Those in attendance in the wards must not, under any circumstances, eat or drink anything in the ward.
- xi. The latter will take their meals in special dining rooms. And any article of their clothing soiled in contact with the Patient's must be disinfected.
- xii. The mouth and throat should be rinsed with disinfectant to free it from contagion.
- xiii. The dead body must be covered with a cloth soaked in disinfectant, and so conveyed to the Mortuary.
- xiv. The dead must be removed as early as possible, and the coffin nailed down at once.
- xv. Relatives are recommended not to visit the dead.
- xvi. Useless articles will be burnt.

THE USE OF UNBOILED WATER FOR DRINKING OR WASHING PURPOSES, IS STRONGLY FORBIDDEN.

### Inventions, Preparations, &c.

#### TEMPERATURE CHARTS.

(THE FRANZ JOSEF COMPANY, 4, Sussex Place, Leadenhall Street, E.C.)

These excellently arranged Charts, supplied free to members of the Medical Profession and to Nurses, come as a pleasant surprise. They are arranged to record 21 days and contain spaces for all the information that can be needed—name, disease, date, morning and evening columns for temperature records from 105° Fahrenheit down to 98°, pulse and respiration spaces, whilst on the fly-leaf are found spaces for "history of case," case book folio, name, address, diagnosis, *résumé* of treatment, result, date of commencement and date of termination of case. And all this in the form of a well printed leaflet, which will easily accommodate itself to the pocket or note book, or can be conveniently docketed and placed away in pigeon holes. Application should most certainly be made by our readers to the Franz Josef Company for a supply of these very useful forms.

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If our readers wish to understand the manufacture of Cocoa for invalids, they should secure the *British Journal of Commerce*, which contains an exceedingly interesting account of the well-known manufactory of Messrs. J. S. FRY & SONS, of Bristol. We regret that it cannot be reproduced here in *extenso*, and would strongly advise Messrs. FRY and SONS to republish the article in booklet form.

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