

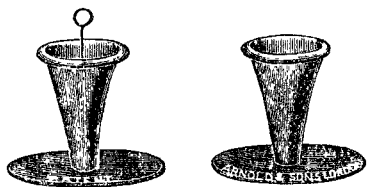
of the pupils; (c) alterations in the shape and size of the pupils, congenital, pathological, or operative; (d) the size of the cornea; (e) the position, shape, and extent of alterations in the cornea, whether on its surface, in its substance, or behind it, or in structures adjacent to it, also the progress of inflammatory processes in the same situations; (f) the extent and direction of deviations of the globe from the direct visual axis; and (g) the extent of the excursions of the globe under muscular action.

Harley-street, W.

KENNETH SCOTT.

IMPROVED EAR-DRUMS.

THIS invention consists of a trumpet and an ear-drum combined in one. The whole instrument is made of india-rubber, so that the apparatus may be worn day and night without causing any pain in the ear. The trumpet-shaped tube collects and assists the conduction of sound-waves to the natural tympanum. The disc-shaped portion at one end of the trumpet-shaped tube is cut with scissors to the size



of the ear canal and introduced into the ear so that it covers up the perforation, whilst the sound is gathered in the trumpet-shaped tube and conducted by the central wire into the middle ear. In cases where there is slight deafness due to dry catarrh the central wire is omitted and the sound waves are gathered and transmitted strongly by one trumpet-shaped tube alone to the middle ear. The ear-drum is easy of introduction and invisible. They are manufactured by Arnold and Sons, West Smithfield, London.

Bombay.

H. J. DADYSETT, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Edin.

AN IMPROVED CUFF FASTENER.

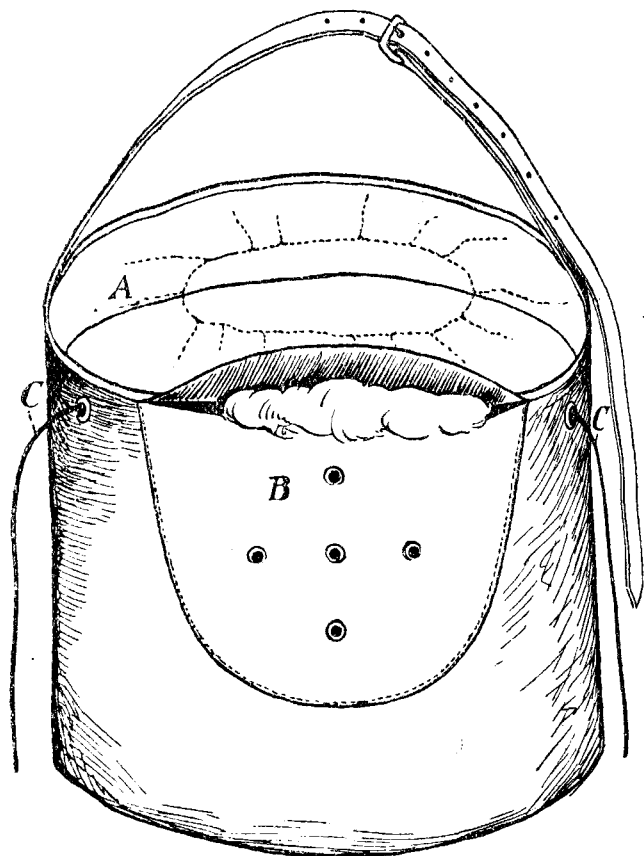
ALTHOUGH not coming strictly within the limits of classification among surgical instruments, yet from its promise of extensive usefulness amongst members of the nursing staffs of both hospitals and nursing institutions generally I venture to bring this invention before the notice of the readers of THE LANCET. It is my wife's invention and she was led to devise it in consequence of the great difficulty experienced in keeping the linen cuffs which are worn outside the dress sleeves in their proper position. Pins, strings, studs, &c., had all been tried in turn separately and in combination, but none were satisfactory. The contrivance is quite simple and practically consists of the ordinary collar or cuff stud with the base extended into the shape of a bangle or bracelet. This extension is made of resilient material, such as nicked steel or xylonite; it bends round the wrist by its own elasticity and completely encircles it, and when fixed in position has a firm and comfortable sensation. When the cuff is fixed to the stud the desired position is at once secured, and the fastener does not shift either up or down, or round the arm in any movement. The cuff can be fixed in a moment, and its removal is equally expeditious, the "Fastener," if so desired, being left upon the sleeve. Casualty nurses and district nurses will appreciate this. Samples and any further particulars can be obtained from Mr. G. Brooks, ironmonger, &c., Cullompton, by whom specimens have been sent to many nurses and nursing institutions. Judging from replies received they have proved very satisfactory.

G. G. GIDLEY, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., &c.
Cullompton.

AN ANTISEPTIC MUZZLE.

A COMBINED nose-bag, water-bucket, and antiseptic muzzle for the prevention of "horse sickness" in South Africa—total weight 12 ounces—has been devised by Lord Frederick Brudenell Bruce and Mr. Ernest Kingscote, M.B., C.M., L.R.C.S. Edin. (Surgeon-Captain Prince of Wales's Own Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry Cavalry). Horse sickness is supposed to be acquired by breathing the veldt air at night

and eating the grass at a certain season of the year. Stabled horses do not acquire it, but 75 per cent. of imported horses are said to succumb to the disease. It is therefore desirable to devise some means of curbing its virulence. Such a means it is claimed is to hand in the combined nose-bag, water-bucket, and antiseptic muzzle. The article is made of a material called "wolft" which is extremely light and more durable than leather and is waterproof. The bag (see figure) is 16 inches by 10 inches (regulation size)



and can be used as an ordinary nose-bag during the day or, being waterproof, as a water-bucket. At night the bag is attached to the head-stall and accurately adjusted by the strings c, c to the horse's head beneath the eyes. As practically all the air inhaled has to come through the breathing holes in the pocket B, it is only necessary to place in the latter a layer of cotton wool and to pour a few drops of eucalyptus oil on to it through the breathing holes in order to render the inhaled air aseptic. The inventors state that horses do not object to the inhalation of eucalyptus oil. The bag has been tried on horses and is being supplied to many of the Yeomanry and others at the front. It may be obtained at the Military Equipment Stores, Waterloopleace, S.W.

ROYAL WEST OF ENGLAND SANATORIUM.—The annual meeting of the Royal West of England Sanatorium, Weston-super-Mare, was held on Feb. 22nd, under the presidency of Mr. F. J. Fry, J.P. The medical report showed that 2117 patients had been admitted (1171 men and 946 women), showing an increase of 114 on the number for 1898. 8450 hot and cold sea-water baths had been used. The income for the year amounted to £3585 and the expenditure to £3430. The committee have placed at the disposal of the Government, free of all charges, one of the principal wards for the use of convalescent soldiers returned from South Africa and already four of them are in the sanatorium.

TYPHOID FEVER AT FALMOUTH.—The report of Dr. G. S. Buchanan, medical inspector to the Local Government Board, on his inquiry last year into the outbreak of typhoid fever at Falmouth was issued on Feb. 22nd. With regard to the water-supply Dr. Buchanan is not satisfied that there was any specific contamination at the source or on the gathering ground. He inclines, however, to the belief that the outbreak was due to the local contamination of the supply through in-suction of infectious matter into the pipes. He advises the town council to consider, not only the disposal of the sewage, but the state of the drains and sewers, and to provide an infectious hospital. He also recommends the water company to adopt various specified precautions.