

the Spicules in some Mollusca and in one Genus of Colonial Ascidians. 4. In a third article Mr. Woodland enters into a preliminary consideration as to the possible factors concerned in the production of the various forms of spicules. 5. On Neurosporidium Cephalodisci n.g.n.sp., a Sporozoon from the Nervous System of Cephalodiscus Nigrescens, by W. G. Ridewood, D.Sc., and H. B. Fantham, B.Sc., with two plates. 6. Gametogenesis and Fertilisation in Nematus Ribesii, by L. Doncaster, M.A., with a plate. 7. The Molluscan Radula, its Chemical Composition and Some Points in its Development, by Igerna B. J. Sollas, with a plate. 8. Observations on Tooth Development in Ornithorhynchus, by J. T. Wilson and J. P. Hill, with three plates.

## New Inventions.

### APPARATUS FOR ELEVATING THE HIPS IN BED.

Messrs. F. Davidson and Co., 29, Great Portland-street, London, W., have recently sent me a new apparatus for elevating the hips in bed which I feel sure will prove of the greatest value in all cases where the patient is very weak and helpless. I was in this condition myself about a year ago and one of the greatest troubles to me and to my nurses was the impossibility of preventing my slipping down the bed in consequence of the middle of the mattress under my hips sagging down to a lower level than that part of it under my shoulders. This trouble and discomfort I find is quite obviated by the use of the apparatus Messrs. Davidson and Co. have made for me. It consists of an oblong wooden frame, which is placed upon and across the bed. To that frame is attached another in such a

FIG. 1.

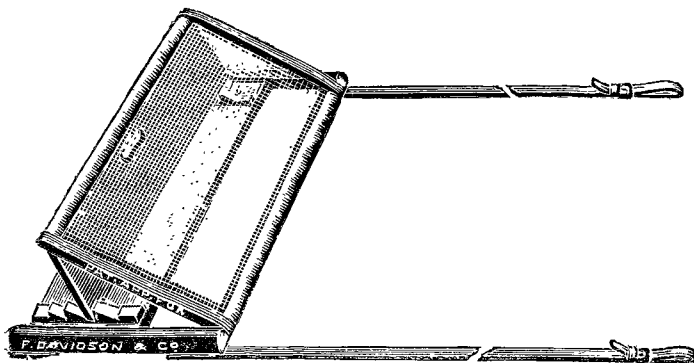
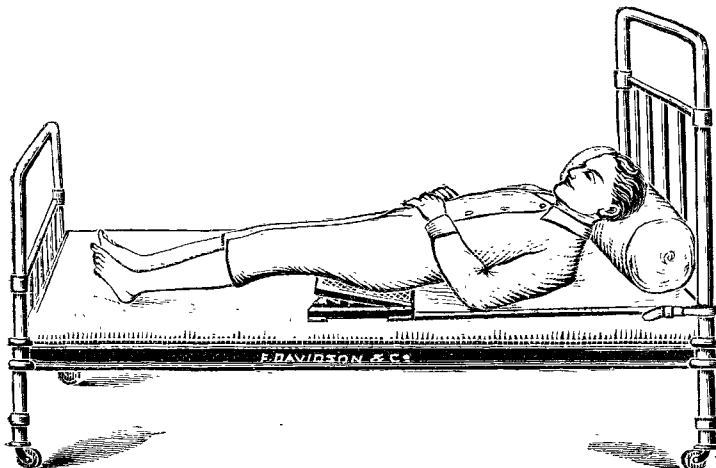


FIG. 2.



way that the side of it nearest the foot of the bed can be raised to any extent and there fixed. The space surrounded by this upper frame is filled in with spring wire, like that of a mattress, for the hips to rest upon. The lower frame has a strap and buckle upon each side, by which it can be attached to the upper posts of the bed which may often be found useful. (Fig. 1.) It requires to be placed under the patient

so that one side of the upper frame comes just above the hips into the hollow of the back, the opposite one crossing under the raised thighs a little above the knees. (See Fig. 2.) Tunbridge Wells. EDWD. G. GILBERT, M.D. Duhr.

### A NEW ETHYL CHLORIDE INHALER, WITH IMPROVED ASEPTIC FACE-PIECE.

THERE are so many ethyl chloride inhalers that one hesitates before recommending another. Nevertheless, I believe there is still room for one, such as I suggest, which combines simplicity, efficiency, and reliability. As seen by the illustrations (Figs. 1 and 2) a tap which regulates the

FIG. 1.

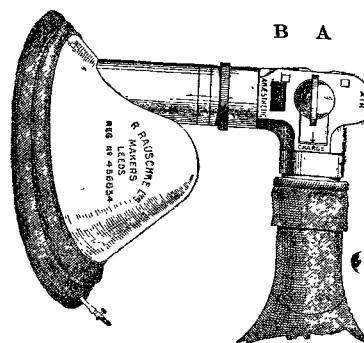
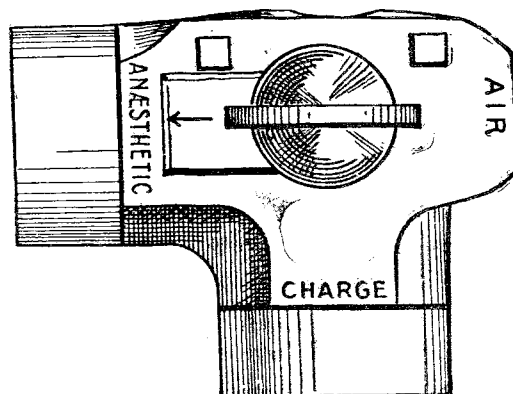


FIG. 2.



administration of the anæsthetic is introduced between the face-piece and the bag. To charge the bag the tap is turned so that the indicator points to "Charge" and the ethyl chloride is injected through a small hole in the tap indicated at A in Fig. 1. The tap is then turned to "Air," thus securing the ethyl in the bag until quite ready to begin. With the tap in this position the face-piece is applied and the patient breathes air only which enters through the inlet seen in the side of the tap B in Fig. 1. At the beginning of an inspiration the tap is turned so that the indicator points to "Anæsthetic," as seen in Fig. 2. This movement closes the air inlet and opens the communication between the face-piece and the bag. This inhaler is specially convenient when a few minutes' continuous anæsthesia may be necessary, for without disturbing the face-piece air can be admitted to the patient, the anæsthetic can be shut off, and the bag can be recharged. The aseptic advantage of the improved face-piece will be evident. The face-piece being connected at its upper end instead of at its centre protects the other parts of the anæsthetic apparatus from contamination in the event of the patient spitting, coughing, or being sick. When desired the apparatus can be fitted to a Clover's inhaler.

The inhaler and face-piece have been made for me by Messrs. Rauschke, Limited, surgical instrument makers, Leeds.

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