

**A MANUAL FOR HOSPITAL
NURSES AND
OTHERS ENGAGED IN
ATTENDING ON THE SICK**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649418572

A Manual for Hospital Nurses and Others Engaged in Attending on the Sick by Edward J. Domville

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EDWARD J. DOMVILLE

**A MANUAL FOR HOSPITAL
NURSES AND
OTHERS ENGAGED IN
ATTENDING ON THE SICK**

A MANUAL
FOR
HOSPITAL NURSES
AND
*OTHERS ENGAGED IN ATTENDING
ON THE SICK*

BY
EDWARD J. DOMVILLE
L.R.C.P. LOND., M.R.C.S. ENG.
SURGEON TO THE DEVON AND EXETER HOSPITAL AND TO THE
EXETER LIVING-IN CHARITY
LECTURER AND EXAMINER TO THE ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

FIFTH EDITION



LONDON
J. & A. CHURCHILL
11, NEW BURLINGTON STREET C

1885

15102 . 2 . 4



CONTENTS.

	PAGE
I. THE NURSE'S DUTIES AS REGARDS HERSELF	5
II. THE NURSE'S DUTIES TOWARDS HER SUPERIORS	7
III. THE NURSE'S DUTIES TOWARDS HER FELLOW-NURSES AND SERVANTS	11
IV. THE NURSE'S DUTIES TOWARDS HER PATIENTS	11

SECTION I.—ORDINARY CASES.

VENTILATION	11
THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FIREPLACE	13
BED-MAKING	14
DRAW-SHEET	15
CHANGING SHEETS	16
WASHING PATIENTS	17
DRESSING PATIENTS	18
FEEDING PATIENTS	19
THE DRESSING OF WOUNDS	19
ANTISEPTIC DRESSING	22
ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE	23
SUPPOSITORIES	24
ADMINISTRATION OF ENEMATA	25
APPLICATION OF LEECHES	25
CUPPING	27
BLISTERS	28
FOMENTATIONS	28
LOTIONS	29
LINIMENTS	30
MASSAGE	30
WET-SHEET PACKING	32
TREATMENT OF BED-SORES	32
NIGHT STOOLS, BED-PANS, &c.	33
DISINFECTANTS	34
LAYING-OUT OF THE DEAD, AND PREPARATION FOR POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION	36

SECTION II.—EXTRAORDINARY CASES.

DIVISION I.—Accidents and Emergencies.

PREPARATION OF THE BED	37
UNDRESSING THE PATIENT	38
FRACTURES	40

	PAGE
DISLOCATIONS	4
HEMORRHAGE	42
INSENSIBLE PATIENTS	45
DELIRIOUS PATIENTS	45
FRAINTNESS	46

DIVISION II.—*Operations.*

AMPUTATION	47
EXCISION AND RESECTION OF JOINTS	49
HERNIA	49
LITHOTOMY	50
LITHOTRITY	50
OVARIOTOMY	50
TAPPING	52

DIVISION III.—*Treatment of Special Cases.*

HYSTERIA AND EPILEPSY	53
PARALYSIS	54
FEVERS	56

APPENDIX.

PREPARATION OF REMEDIES, &c.

BANDAGES	57	TREACLE POSSET	73
ENEMATA	60	GRUEL	73
FOMENTATIONS	62	SAGO	73
BOULTIQUES	62	ARROWROOT	73
PATES	65	ARROWROOT PUDDING	73
USE OF THE THERMOMETER	66	CUSTARD PUDDING	73
SICK-ROOM COOKERY	68	LIGHT BATTER PUDDING	73
BEEF-TEA	68	RICE BLANCMANGE	74
MUTTON-BROTH	69	CORN-FLOUR PUDDING	74
CHICKEN-BROTH	69	LEMONADE	74
CHICKEN PANADA	69	IMPERIAL DRINK	74
MEAT JELLY	69	BARLEY WATER	74
PORT-WINE JELLY	70	TOAST WATER	74
BEEF-TEA CUSTARD	70	LINSEED TEA	74
BARLEY CREAM	70	RICE WATER	75
CALF'S FOOT JELLY	71	APPLE WATER	75
BREAD JELLY	71	TIMES FOR ADMINISTERING	
SIX WAYS OF COOKING AN		MEDICINE, &c.	76
EGG	71	WEIGHTS AND MEASURES	77
BRANDY MIXTURE	72	GLOSSARY	78
WHITE-WINE WHEY	72		

A MANUAL
FOR
HOSPITAL NURSES.

In order to define accurately the duties and the responsibilities of a nurse, we must consider them separately, as they concern her, in relation with four persons, or sets of persons:

1. Herself.
 2. Her Superiors.
 3. Her Fellow-Servants or Nurses.
 4. The Patients entrusted to her care.
-

I.—THE NURSE'S DUTIES AS REGARDS
HERSELF.

She should be always neatly and quietly dressed. Where a special dress is adopted for the nurses it is not very easy to be otherwise than quietly dressed; but it should be remembered that, even off duty, gaudy ribbons and showy feathers do not become those who only wear

6 *The Nurse's Duties as regards Herself.*

their finery occasionally, any more than they do those who have an opportunity of doing so every day.

Ornaments of every kind should be avoided, but when *absolutely necessary*, should be of as simple a character as is possible.

A small well-stocked pincushion and a pair of scissors, suspended from the waist-belt of the apron, are seldom in the way, and always useful.

Aprons, cuffs, collars, and caps should be changed frequently; half an hour every day would be ample time to get ready sufficient clean linen to repair the damage of the day, and would be but a small price to pay for the advantage of being always neatly dressed.

Dresses made too long or too much extended are not only in the way, but also dangerous. High-heeled boots cannot but be noisy, and this should be reason sufficient to exclude them from a sick-room, where all engaged should endeavour to move about as little, as quietly, and as unobtrusively as possible.

A nurse should always have clean hands, taking especial care to cleanse them thoroughly after dressing any wound; and while carefully avoiding to waste too much time in adjusting and readjusting her dress, should always endeavour, in her own person, to set before her patients an example of neatness and cleanliness.

A nurse should always be up in time to have some breakfast before beginning her regular work; a want of food at this time often lays the foundation of a headache or disinclination for work during the rest of the day, which is seldom traced to the true cause.

The Nurse's Duties towards her Superiors. 7

A night nurse should, if possible, be able to knit, crochet, or to do other noiseless work which does not require light, and which may serve as an agreeable safeguard against going to sleep.

On coming off duty a night nurse should have a bath, and should go for a brisk walk in the open air before going to bed.

II.—THE NURSE'S DUTIES TOWARDS HER SUPERIORS.

These may be summed up in a very few words, if a nurse will only bear in mind the position in which she is placed.

A nurse's responsibilities are undoubtedly very great, since she is entrusted with so many duties, in themselves apparently slight, but, taken together, of vital importance. Nevertheless, she should always remember that she is acting under the orders of her superiors, who are alone *responsible for the results* of their orders when *properly* carried out; and she should never presume to make any alteration whatever in the treatment of her cases or the arrangement of her ward without first of all ascertaining, if possible, the wishes of the responsible person and obtaining the necessary permission.

It is scarcely necessary to insist that the personal conduct of a nurse towards her superiors should always be above reproach; incivility, rudeness, or sulkiness under merited correction can never raise the character