

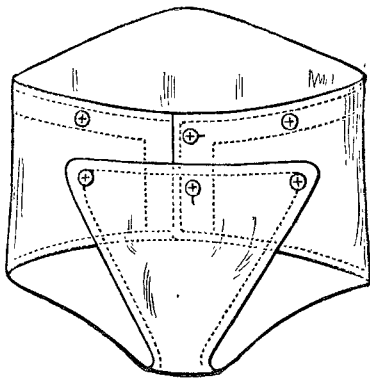
Gray in its illustrations and descriptive details, and to Quain and Macalister in general anatomical thoroughness and morphological research. It much resembles Wilson, but is in no way superior to it in anatomical minuteness, although it has the advantage of clearer type, and better printing and binding.

New Invention.

THE "LUNGOOTY" BANDAGE.

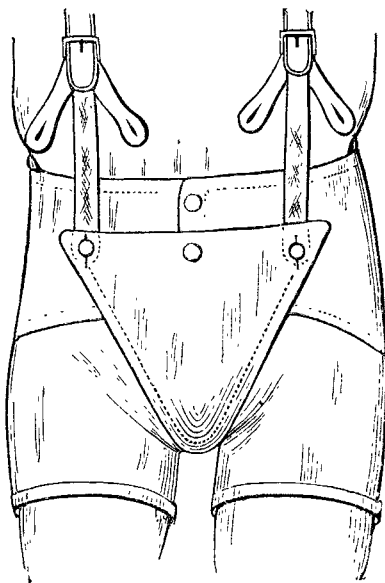
I BEG to bring before the notice of the profession a bandage invented and patented by a patient of mine, and named by him the "Lungooty" Bandage. I find it useful to patients who require support about the genitals in health or disease. Thus, it is appreciated by anyone accustomed to much riding, cycling, and to some forms

FIG. 1.



of gymnastics; whilst others suffering from orchitis, varicocele, hydrocele, &c., find it efficacious. Again, by its means, dressings may be retained about the genitals, perineum, or anus, with certainty and a minimum of inconvenience. It is made in various materials, so as to thoroughly fit the hips, and to extend above and below these points for a short distance. It is this perfect fit that

FIG. 2.



is the great feature of the bandage. No elastic is used, an obvious advantage when it is remembered that this material yields at the very point where and when pressure is brought to bear on it, or where support is required of it. Fig. 1 represents the bandage, and Fig. 2 represents the same let in a pair of drawers, forming part and parcel of the garment.

W. T. WHITMORE.

THE SWISS ACT FOR PROVIDING MEDICAL ATTENDANCE GRATUITOUSLY TO CERTAIN CLASSES.

THE following is a brief account of the law lately passed by the Council of the Canton of Basle Town for providing poor persons *gratuitously* with medical, surgical, and obstetric attendance. The law is meant to serve the double purpose of benefiting the poor and furthering medical education. It is worthy of note that while the people of Basle have passed the law for gratuitous supply of doctors, they have rejected the law of compulsory insurance against sickness. This looks a very one-sided arrangement, by which the people are to be supplied without any contribution of their own. It is legislation in the direction of pauperism rather than of providence:—

The Act provides for the establishment of a State-supported Public Dispensary, or Out-patient department, as distinguished from that already afforded at the hospitals. This dispensary is to be placed under the control of a medical director, who is to receive a salary of from £120 to £200 a year, to be allowed private practice, and in virtue of the appointment to acquire the status of a professor of the University. The objects of the institution are, first, to provide gratuitous advice and necessary appliances in medical, surgical, and obstetric cases; secondly, to provide additional educational advantages for the use of the University. The benefits of the institution are to be available for all independent persons or persons in service whose income is less than £48 a year. A residence of six months in the canton is a necessary qualification for the benefits of the institution. The staff of the dispensary is to consist of the above-mentioned director, and as many assistant physicians as shall be deemed necessary, with, eventually, an apothecary or dispenser. Provision is made in the Act for the establishment of departments devoted to the treatment of special diseases.

The conditions of a small Swiss canton are so diverse from that of an empire like England, or even of a city like London or Manchester, that it is difficult to realise how such a scheme as that embodied in this Act of the Great Council of Basle Town would work if attempted here. In the first place, the question would arise as to whether the State does not already do enough, by means of the Poor-law and Asylums Board, for the class here attempted to be benefited. Secondly, would there not hereby be opened up a further extension of what we are now struggling against—the abuse of charitable institutions? In a small State it may be possible to check the accounts of an individual as to his income, but experience has shown that in larger communities this is impossible, and the mere statements as to the amount of a man's income are quite unreliable, especially when he expects to benefit by demonstrating its minuteness. Direct State supply of charitable assistance, whether medical or otherwise, is not preferable to voluntary efforts in the same direction. Neither are these latter as beneficial as they might be when they are not regulated by some system of organisation. It is to be hoped that the Committee of the House of Lords now sitting to consider the condition of the Medical Charities will indicate some scheme by which these voluntary institutions may be brought into coöperation and order.

THE WILLIAM F. JENKS MEMORIAL PRIZE.—The second triennial prize of \$450, under the deed of trust of Mrs. William F. Jenks, will be awarded to the author of the best essay on "The Symptomatology and Treatment of the Nervous Disorders following the Acute Infectious Diseases of Infancy and Childhood." The prize is open for competition to the whole world, but the essay must be the production of a single person. The essay, which must be written in the English language, or if in a foreign language accompanied by an English translation, should be sent to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., before January 1st, 1892, addressed to Louis Starr, M.D., Chairman of the William F. Jenks Prize Committee.