

alignment of the tibia, proved sufficient to over-correct slightly the genu recurvatum, and a few months later she was walking with a consciousness of increased power, and control was gradually returning.

Disability at the knee joint when there has been no disease affecting the part is due occasionally to laxity of the ligaments and other structures which should keep the bones which enter into its formation in close and firm apposition. The causes doubtless are varied. One of the most frequent, however, is faulty nursing while confined to bed supine. It has often been stated that extension applied to the lower extremity in such a way that the femur is not grasped is responsible for this relaxed condition of the knee joint. For several years, however, the writer has so applied the power, when extension is required, as to grasp the leg only at a point just above the ankle joint by means of an anklet or gaiter fitting comfortably that part and forming the fixation to the limb for the traction force. As a result, disability has never been seen at the knee joint. While thus recumbent a small pillow or pad should be placed under the knee, so that a slight degree of flexion should be constantly maintained. The disability and laxity of the joint is a result of hyperextension rather than of direct traction made upon the joint.

ST. LUKE'S GENERAL HOSPITAL, OTTAWA, NURSES' GRADUATION, MAY, 1912

ADDRESS BY DR. R. W. POWELL.

The graduation exercises at St. Luke's General Hospital this year took place in the hospital on May the 15th, and were honored by the presence of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught, who presented each candidate with her diploma and medal.

The chair was taken by Sir Louis Davies, in the absence of Mr. J. R. Booth, the President of the hospital, and the proceedings were opened by Sir Louis with a few words of welcome to Her Royal Highness.

Dr. W. C. Cousens, Chairman of the Medical Board, then read the official returns of the standing of the nurses, and administered the Florence Nightingale pledge to the graduates.

The nurses presented Her Royal Highness with a handsome bouquet of roses, and this was followed by the presentation of the lecturer's prize to Miss Edith Exton, of Leeds, England.