

many defects and demerits its good qualities will more than over-balance its bad, and because of this, and because its application is based upon accurate scientific principles I give it my most hearty indorsement."

Proper application and rapid setting of the plaster is necessary. The best material to use is a starch sized crinoline or muslin, cut in five yard lengths, and three to four inches wide. In this plaster is rubbed or the crinoline is drawn through a box containing plaster of Paris (White's dental is the best) and rolled loosely. A small woven shirt of cotton or wool is drawn upon the patient. (stockinette is also used), drawn tight and secured, that no wrinkles may be present, and all bony prominences, be they spines or deformities, are padded. For this purpose I use now this thick felt, it is soft, slightly compressible and highly absorbent of perspiration. If the spines are not prominent one strip laid along the top of them is all that is necessary. If there is a prominent knuckle, then the padding had better be built up in such a manner that the transverse processes take the pressure, and a space is left between for the spinous processes. The edges of the felt will be exposed so that all may be secured by the plaster. Now, the patient is suspended in a Sayre's swing or suspension apparatus until the weight above the point of disease is removed and extension of the spine effected. The patient's heels may just be raised from the stool or he may be raised until a sense of comfort and freedom of pain is produced. Then the jacket can be applied. The patient steadies himself by holding a pair of straps from the cross bar. The axillary straps are not important and may be left off, as the shoulder is quite movable and no fixation is secured through them. Dinner pads are not often necessary.

The plaster bandages, after being well soaked in water to which a small quantity of salt has been added, being left at the bottom of the pail until all the bubbling has stopped, are squeezed free of superfluous water, and applied layer upon layer, from below upwards. The jacket, to be of greatest usefulness, must be solid at the fulcrum, which will be at the back in the region of the deformity, in most cases in which jackets are applied, and brought up as high as possible in front to the emergence of the neck, and at the bottom to just below the anterior superior spines, but high enough to escape the genitalia. It should be worked in, while soft along the iliac crests, as it is these that really support the jacket from below. This gives one the greatest leverage obtainable through length of front, besides best fixation for the chests for it is accurately fitted over as great an area as possible. An ordinary sharp pruning knife is the best thing to cut out or trim