

SPRAINS.—The *Railway Surgeon* says the best treatment for sprains of the foot is the use of hot foot baths for fifteen minutes three times a day, follow each bath with massage for fifteen minutes, then apply snugly a Martin rubber bandage from the toes up as high as the ankle, and have the patient walk.

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THE USE OF THE RÖENTGEN X RAYS IN SURGERY.—W. W. Keen, in *Dunglison's College and Clinical Record*, says that deformities, injuries, and diseases of bone can be readily diagnosed in the hands, fore-arms and feet; that foreign bodies, opaque to the rays, such as needles, bullets and glass, can be located; that the internal organs are not accessible to examination; that it is not likely cancers, sarcomas and the like can be diagnosticated; that calculi of the kidney, bladder, and gall bladder cannot be diagnosticated, either (1) because they are embedded in such parts of the body as are too thick to be permeated by the rays, or (2) are surrounded by the bones of the pelvis, or (3) are, in the case of gall stones, themselves permeable to the rays.

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THE INFLUENCE OF A PREVIOUS SIRE.—Dr. A. L. Bell, of Dunfermline, Scotland, in *Medical Age* for June 10, in a lengthy and carefully prepared paper goes to show that there is no ground for holding the opinion that a previous sire will affect the offspring of a second sire. He comes to this conclusion from three grounds: (1) The cases that have been often quoted in support of the belief are not reliable, and lack the necessary scientific data to form a ground for any safe deduction. (2) The study of the foetal and maternal circulation would go to exclude the belief that any interchange in the blood would take place that would influence the mother in her future conceptions. (3) The writer then deals with cases of animals where experience is contrary to the common belief. One is of interest. A pure white woman had a male child to a full blood negro, and in less than three years a daughter to a pure white man. The daughter had no traces of the negro. Dr. Bell personally knows these people.

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THE SURGICAL TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.—Dr. Frederick Peterson, in *New York Medical Journal*, June 6th, remarks that the surgical treatment of epilepsy is not attended with the most brilliant results. He states that the practitioner may perform his gynecological operations, circumcize, carry out procedures on the nose, tamper with the