

nipple is inserted. The turret is hollowed out and made flaring on the inside, so as to permit but the smallest possible extent of surface in contact with the organ. The entire nipple is thus left exposed to the air. The elevated ring around the base of the turret, by pressing gently upon the lacteal sinuses, favors the spontaneous emptying of these vessels, thereby removing an important source of irritation. The fluted under-surface of the disk helps to keep the shield in place, through atmospheric pressure, and is generally sufficient, with the aid of the usual clothing, for this purpose. If anything more is required, a narrow band of linen having a button-hole in the centre big enough to go over the turret, and attached by pins or otherwise to the dress will suffice. The shield should only be removed for the child to nurse. After each nursing, anoint with castor-oil, and re-apply it.

The material of which these shields are made, viz., wood, combines in a higher degree than any other the important properties of lightness and coolness. All the essential conditions of treatment are thus fulfilled. Little else is necessary for a cure, excepting in the case of fissures, which are often materially benefited by the application of a point of nitrate of silver over the whole of their surface, to be followed immediately with a free unction with castor-oil. This will rarely require repetition if the other directions are attended to. The nitrate may also be of service in cases where exuberant granulations have been allowed to form on the excoriated summit.—*Medical Circular and Register.*

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### LETHARGUS.

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This singular and invariably fatal malady, peculiar to the negroes of certain districts on the western coast of Africa, has never, I believe, been noticed in the medical journals of this country, which is not surprising when we consider that a knowledge of it is practically unimportant to the profession outside of the district where it occurs. As a curiosity, however, in the form of a disease, it cannot fail, I think, to interest the medical