

not require to be entirely cut off, but reduced to a strength at which muscular contractions are not excited; also it is advisable for the increase and decrease to be gradual, so that the current takes on an undulatory form.

This is provided for by some variety of rhythmic interrupter, such as that devised by the late Dr. Lewis Jones. This instrument consists of an elongated metal cup, filled with water, and a metal rod which is made to pass up and down inside the water by means of a small motor. This appliance is placed in circuit with the patient, one wire being connected to the metal cup, the other to the rod.

As the rod passes farther into the water, a larger path is provided for the flow of current, which therefore rhythmically increases, and then diminishes as the rod is withdrawn. The rate of undulation is regulated by the speed of the motor. About one complete cycle a second is usually a suitable rate.