

photograph, and squirted over the flames, will work wonders. Not only does the force with which the liquid leaves the tube allow of its being directed well above the operator's head, but the carbonic-acid gas with which the water is charged helps to deaden the flames.

How to act for one's safety, or to assist another, in the case of burning clothing cannot be better told than in the words of Prof. John Marshall. He says: "If the dress of a woman catches fire, she should at once lie down on the floor, and should crawl in this position either to a bell-pull or a door, and call for assistance; or she should roll herself in a rug or blanket. In the event of a man rendering help, he should at once lay the patient down, take off his coat and roll her in it, unless he can obtain a blanket or rug, or roll her on the carpet. If a woman renders assistance, she must be careful not to allow her own clothing to touch the victim, but to hold a rug or blanket in front of herself while approaching the flames."

Prompt action without rashness or self-balking hurry, is the keynote of success in fighting the fire fiend. This applies especially to those who wake from sleep to find the house on fire. Not a moment should be lost, but there should be no wild rushing from a window to a door and back again. First, an attempt should be made to get down the stairs. To escape through passages filled with suffocating smoke, tie a wet handkerchief over the mouth and nose, then crawl on the hands and knees, for the smoke tends to rise with the hot air, and will be less dense close to the floor.

But if the whole of the lower part of the house is burning, and escape by means of the stairs is impossible, preparations must be made for leaving through the window. Tie all the sheets and blankets together by means of "reef-knots," which will not slip no matter how much strain is put upon them. Then drop the bedding or mattress from the window, in order that there may be some kind of break in the event of a possible fall. Finally, make one end of your improvised fire-escape fast to the bedpost, drop the other end from the window, and after making sure that it reaches to, or almost to, the ground, go down it boldly hand over hand. It should be added that in the case of inexperienced persons, there is always considerable risk of a dangerous fall resulting from this means of exit; therefore it should be undertaken only when all other means of escape have failed.

In conclusion, a few words may be added respecting the treatment of burns and scalds prior to the arrival of a doctor.