ADAPTATION OF A RAILWAY PORTER’S TRUCK FOR THE CARRIAGE OF WOUNDED.

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Among the many ingenious devices I have seen in the course of the inspections of the London Voluntary Aid Detachments, I was particularly struck with the suitability of this for moving patients able to sit up, but otherwise helpless, on long smooth surfaces such as railway platforms. The illustrations make it perfectly clear, I think, but all that is needed is an ordinary porter’s truck and an ordinary folding camp chair with arms, costing about four shillings. The back legs of the chair are sawn off just below the rivet joining them to the front, and the front legs, if not long enough to reach the footplate of the truck, can rest on a bar of wood of the required thickness. Two rather wide brass coat-hooks
screwed into the middle rail of the chair upside down behind serve to attach it to the centre bar of the truck. A small block of wood can be screwed on to the underside of the bar on which the legs rest at each end to prevent it shifting. If thought advisable, the chair can in addition be lashed at the back to the truck. If a headrest is needed, a bar can easily be lashed on to the truck at the required height. It will be found that a woman or child can transport a heavy man without fatigue in this manner.

The description and photographs I owe to Mrs. Thorp, of V.A.D., London, #50, who invented it.