Clinical and other Notes

for the rising pulse-rate apart from the abdominal condition. Perforation was suspected and laparatomy decided on. His general condition was very bad, and one and a half pints of saline were given intravenously during the operation, with marked benefit to the patient.

The operation was performed by Major H. C. Donald, and it was found that a coil of small intestine had passed through a breach in the mesentery and was twisted on its axis. On untwisting the gut, it was easily withdrawn through the aperture in the mesentery. The intestine did not appear greatly damaged. The subsequent progress of the patient was without event; the laparatomy wound healing by first intention, and the patient was sent to England convalescent, on November 11, 1915.

The case was one of twelve suffering from cerebrospinal meningitis which were treated at the isolation hospital. The method of treatment described above for the cerebrospinal condition was adopted throughout and appears to have been particularly successful, as there were only two deaths in the series. All the cases were diagnosed bacteriologically, the meningococcus being found in the cerebrospinal fluid by Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. Harrison, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., and Lieutenant A. Banks Raffle, R.A.M.C.

TRESTLE FOR SUPPORTING FIELD STRETCHER.

By COLONEL A. L. BATE.

MIGHT I venture to refer to the interesting description in the Journal of the trestle for supporting field stretchers, invented by Captain McFayden, R.A.M.C. This trestle was very kindly first shown to me by Major Symons, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., and from a pattern he gave me, I had

many made for the use of No. 4 Stationary Hospital. I have tried them constantly in a building and in camp since December, 1914. Major Symons pointed out to me the nails used in fixing the upper horizontal battens at each end as the weak point. This I am now able to confirm after

Fig. 1.—Trestle. a, open; b, closed.
Fig. 2.—Bed improvised from trestles and stretcher.

Fig. 3.—Bundle of eleven trestles packed for transport.

Fig. 4.
constant use. These nails loosen, and the trestle soon wobbles after use. I therefore took the liberty of introducing screws, which I believe Major Symons also suggested, where nails appeared to be unsatisfactory, but, in addition, I found it necessary to place a small piece of hoop-iron over the extreme ends of the battens on either side, just where the screw is introduced, and I also placed one extra batten on each side, extending from the upper and lower angles on opposite sides, diagonally outside, and fixed these battens by nails. These additions prevent the side-to-side movement caused by the loosening of the nails, while the screws and hoop-iron bands and extra battens keep the upper horizontal battens firmly fixed. Up to the present these additions have proved most satis-

![Fig. 5.](image-url)