

and treated with gasoline and alcohol and covered with aseptic dressing and bandage, which are not removed until the operation is about to commence.

Upon entering the operating room the patient must be so placed upon the table that the field of operation, even if the jugular required to be dissected, is convenient to the operator. For this purpose a sand pillow is placed under the shoulders, so that the head, which is turned to the side, may drop a little downwards and the chin be elevated.

When the dressings are removed the head is covered by a cap, or, as I prefer, by a damp towel placed underneath it, the loose ends being brought up and snugly pinned across the forehead, so as to thoroughly cover every hair and leave the field completely exposed. The use of the towel has this advantage, that if the head be required to be moved it can be firmly grasped without danger of everything slipping.

Moist towels are also laid across the posterior and inferior borders, but the face and nose are kept uncovered, so that no contraction of the facial muscles may escape attention.

After trial of several methods of illumination, I have adopted with entire satisfaction, for the past year, Alexander's modification of the Klar Electric Head Light. This has several distinct advantages over all others, namely, that it has little weight, gives absolutely no heat, is so adapted to the eyes that the operator looks directly down the path of light, and admits of being focussed to the distance which suits the vision of the operator. I cannot be too emphatic in acknowledging the great assistance that this light has been to me. A perfect illumination of the field is an essential, if one is to avoid the dangers which surround the exploration of the eaditus and the middle ear.

In all my operations I prefer the assistance of a trained anesthetist. This is not always possible, but I believe that we are doing better for our patient, better for ourselves, and better for the family physician, if we insist upon this point, and I am convinced that the day is coming when this will be generally realized. The operator should be able to focus his attention entirely upon the work directly before him, and where he has any doubt of the capacity of his anesthetist this is impossible