

placed over a heater and allowed to come to a boil. The cold one is used for reducing these to the temperature desired. This apparatus with at least three flasks of solution should be in every ward of a hospital and in every doctor's office. Caught unprepared, I have on two occasions (once in a case of collapse after a hysterectomy and once in a case due to loss of blood) used a solution made by putting ordinary table salt in plain water in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a pint, boiling it and filtering it as it goes through the funnel by placing a dozen layers of sterilized gauze in the funnel. Both cases recovered with no bad results.

OPERATION.

If the operation is undertaken while the patient is not under the effects of a general anaesthetic cocaine injected over the line of intended incision is all that will be required. After the incision in the skin is made there is no pain so it is not usually difficult to do it without any anaesthetic at all.

Let it be understood in the beginning that thorough sterilization of the hands of the operator and assistants, all instruments, apparatus, field of operation, dressings, etc., is very essential if an entirely successful result is desired. I will not refer to this again but take it for granted that this is the case.

The site selected is usually the anterior aspect of the bend of the elbow. The median-basilic vein is generally the most prominent and is usually selected. If the patient be fat, or if the veins at the elbow do not stand out, a little compression above the elbow will bring them into prominence. It is not necessary in every case to tie a bandage around the arm. I say the median-basilic is usually chosen because it is the most prominent and largest. I do not believe however in looking for it. The rule I follow is to select the most prominent vein and very often this is not the median-basilic. I used on one occasion the radial vein, and on another I was unable to see a single vein around the elbow so I cut down and used the cephalic. In cases due to shock it is often very hard to find a vein on account of their collapsed condition. These are the