

any other abdominal section. Immediate laparotomy should be done. (3) The reduced gut, which has been returned as auspicious, may become gangrenous and obstruction of the bowel may still continue. If this condition be suspected, the abdomen should be opened and the gangrenous bowel sought for, and either resected or incised, and kept outside the abdomen with the object of forming an artificial anus. (4) The bowel may not be gangrenous, yet be so injured that it may not be able to resume its proper functions, and the patient may die in consequence if not relieved by a laparotomy. (5) The bowel may be temporarily paralyzed by local inflammation so as not to be able immediately to resume its functions, though after some days it may recover completely its normal condition. In such cases there is obstinate constipation, without vomiting or other signs of peritonitis. (6) Cases of acute mania have followed the operation for strangulated hernia, some of which have proved fatal.—SHEPHERD, "American Text-Book of Surgery."—*N. Y. Med. Rec.*

### SURGICAL HINTS.

NEVER USE MORPHINE BEFORE ANÆSTHESIA in patients who are in a state of stupor or traumatic shock. In these the drug has a distinct tendency to increase these conditions.—NEVER HAVE ANY MORE ASSISTANTS at an operation than are absolutely necessary. They are apt to get into each other's way, and the more people help you, the greater the difficulty of securing asepsis.—EXCEPTING IN EMERGENCY CASES, every patient about to be operated on is entitled to as careful an examination as if he were applying for life insurance, and to treatment before the operation for any complicating condition.—THERE ARE CERTAIN PATIENTS in whom it is very desirable that they shall make no violent movements while they are being anæsthetized, as for instance in certain fractures. In these cases a full dose of morphine an hour before the anæsthesia will contribute a great deal to secure a quiet etherization.—WHEN USING COCAINE hypodermically, it is seldom necessary to use a solution stronger than one per cent., and then always have the patient in a recumbent position. The danger of cocaine lies in the possibility of syncope from failure of the heart's action, and lying down is the best preventive.—WHEN OPERATING, never put too many instruments in one tray, as it becomes more difficult to find just what you want. It is best to have several small trays, and to put the cutting