

sistance her sleeves, hood and gown (always being careful not to touch the hair or anything else not sterile). Then she puts the spreads over their tables, the instrument tray in its holder; puts its spread over it; puts the basin or basins in their place; joints the instruments and places them on their tray and the gauzes and ligatures on their table. After washing up she never touches anything that is not sterile, including instruments and gauzes which have been defiled in operating.

The Assistant Surgeon has washed up before the patient is brought into the operating room; but has not put on gown, gloves, hood, or sleeves, and washes up the patient as soon as he is brought in from the anaesthetising room; after this he sterilizes his hands as above, gets into his gown (which is fastened behind by the assistant nurse), puts on his hood, sleeves and gloves, and is ready.

The Operator must be washed up by the time the assistant has finished disinfecting the field of operation; then gets into his gown, etc.; then with the assistance of the head nurse envelops the patient in Mackintosh, sheets and towels and finally arranges his instruments.

The Assistant Nurse does not wash up at all and this serves to remind her that she is to touch nothing that is to be used in an aseptic condition. She ties the patient to the operating table; then folds down the clothes to expose the field of operation widely; then supplies the water and biniodide soap to the assistant surgeon, holds the roll of cotton for washing swabs to be torn from in such a manner that the roll is not infected by her hand; she pours over the field of operation the Harrington's solution, alcohol and sterile water as directed by the assistant surgeon. After this she is always on hand for any work which cannot be done by those who are surgically clean.

Harrington's Solution (Annals of Surgery, October, '04). Commercial Alcohol 194%; 640 c. c. Hydrochloric Acid 60 c. c.; water 300 c. c.; Corros. Sublimate, 8 grammes.

Ligatures.—Chromacised catgut had better be bought sealed of a reliable dealer. Silk worm gut and Celloidin linen are boiled with the instruments. Dry iodine catgut (Annals of Surgery, '05) or iodine spirit catgut (British Medical Jour-