

Selections.

SURGICAL HINTS.

In bad cases of burns or other severe and painful injuries, it is advantageous to give chloroform for the first dressing, or at least to give a hypodermic injection of morphia. This diminishes the pain and fear, and consequently lessens the shock.

The parents of children with hypertrophied tonsils often object to operation because they think the latter may interfere with the child's voice. This fear is groundless. Explain to the parents that the voice will suffer more from the child's continued bad health than from anything else.

In children with prolapse of the rectum it will often be enough to prescribe the daily use of laxatives; to see that the bowels are only moved while the patient is lying down over a bed-pan, and to strap the buttocks tightly together during the intervals between defecations with a wide strip of adhesive plaster.

It is seldom wise to consent to the parents being present when an operation has to be performed on a child. Children are bound to be terrified when first given an anesthetic, and their cries for help and appeals to their parents are often more than the latter can stand. More than one surgeon has been compelled to defer or even abandon an operation for this reason.

Sometimes in children who have undergone a tracheotomy and have been compelled to wear the tube a long while, it seems very difficult to get them in the habit of using their larynx again. A nervous dread of being without the tube has much to do with this condition. In such cases the surgeon may try occlusion of the tube with a cork, without removing the instrument, and persevering efforts must be made to get the child to talk, or to blow a cheap trumpet, or to blow out a candle.—*International Journal of Surgery.*

Treatment of Labial Carcinoma.

The only proper treatment for cancer of the lip is radical extirpation at the earliest possible moment, associated with removal of the anatomically related lymphatic glands. It is quite true that arsenic is frequently used in these cases. We admit that some cases have been cured by its use, but we consider that this treatment is absolutely improper, because it