

after operation. The usual prescription is 3 grs. of calomel, giving half a grain every half hour until all are taken, and two hours after the last dose half an ounce of mag. sulph., and an enema the morning of operation. He is also given a hot bath, with soaping and scrubbing. This does not necessarily mean that he is put into a bath-tub, for he might be too ill for this, but he can be thoroughly bathed in bed. Then the skin of the area to be operated upon is prepared. In most cases the first step is to thoroughly shave the skin. The whole area involved in the operation ought to be shaved. After the skin has been shaved, it should be cleansed of dirt and surface epithelium by energetic scrubbing and soaping, with green soap. Then the fat and sebaceous matter must be removed. This is done by rubbing the skin with ether or spirits of turpentine, or gasolene. Ether and gasolene are clean, and leave a surface into which the disinfectant penetrates. Then a green soap poultice is applied for two hours, and the above process repeated. Then a large piece of gauze, saturated with 1-40 carbolic acid solution, is placed over the skin. This should be changed two or three times during the twelve or fourteen hours preceding the operation, and two hours prior to the operation the part should be gone over with ether or gasolene, and soap, and fresh carbolic (1-40) applied.

*The Field of Operation.*—Take away blankets, but avoid unnecessary exposure. The loss of heat is very great when a large area of skin is exposed to the air and wetted with lotions. The patient's body should be clothed in warm flannel garments, and the feet in stockings. If the patient be old or debilitated, wrap up as much as possible of the trunk and limbs in layers of cotton wool, held in place with a bandage. Only the area of operation should be laid bare, disinfected and surrounded by aseptic towels. A thin mackintosh may be placed beneath the towels to keep the patient's clothing and blankets dry.

*Operations on Female Generative Organs.*—If the operation be upon the female generative organs, or any condition in the pelvis, the vagina must be cleansed by douches of carbolic acid solution (1-40), or hyd. bich. (1-4000). Two douches should be given the day before operation, and one the morning of operation. If the operation be upon the vagina or cervix, the pubic hair must be shaved. The chest should be covered with a blanket, with a rubber sheet over it, and the legs wrapped in a similar way, or with absorbent cotton, and bandaged, if the patient be old or debilitated. If the operation is to be long, the feet should rest upon a hot water bag, another should be placed under the knees, and still others about the chest. The surgeon or nurse may go over the abdomen again with green soap and a nail brush, fol-