

paradox relating to the attempted cure of an inebriate, one of Sir James' patients. The patient plaintively appealed to the physician: "I am in the habit of drinking several Scotch whiskeys a day—you won't stop everything, will you? It's so difficult to break a habit."

The doctor further averred that "the worst man to bear a surgical operation is a drunkard; the next worst is a total abstainer."

There is much food for thought in Dr. Paget's philosophy. Physicians, as a rule, are not apt to take a wide view of their calling, being too engrossed in the material, mercantile bearings of their business. They are scientists rather than philosophers, regarding proximate causes and conditions with too great consideration, and consequently failing to detect the subtler, more powerful agencies with which scientific skill must contend. The highest achievements of medical art are tangibly related to psychological as well as pathological investigation. The most adept diagnostician may woefully err in discarding occult yet potent manifestations of disease. A deeper, more thoughtful study of mental characteristics and a profounder knowledge of the psychical relations upon which outward accidents often largely depend, would not infrequently suggest more rational procedures than those which are wont to commend themselves. Man is an extremely complex organism, defying complete analysis. It is the part of wisdom, no less than of professional science, to examine closely the remoter influences which may affect the conditions which confront us, enlarging the scope of our examination and ignoring nothing which may possibly conduce to ultimate success.—*Doctors' Magazine*.

Operations in Gloves.

M. Quénu spoke at the Société de Chirurgie on the aseptic advantages of wearing indiarubber gloves while operating. He said that it was impossible to sterilize the hands sufficiently, and the use of caoutchouc simplified singularly the question, for without that precaution the surgeon should in general renounce all septic interventions forty-eight hours, at least, before an aseptic operation. The same precaution of protecting the hands permitted the making of autopsies, but, as a rule, the operator should never enter an autopsy room, as it was never properly cleaned. M. Tuffier said that for his part he would never let a surgeon operate on him who had previously done a septic operation. As regarded indiarubber gloves he recognized their advantage in performing septic operations, but he preferred thread gloves for aseptic operations. But before everything he considered that the rapidity of the operation was an essential factor in the success of the intervention. To put on the caoutchouc gloves easily it was only necessary to fill them with water.—*Paris Cor. Med. Press and Circular*.