

*(b) Anaesthesia.*

Sir Victor generally uses chloroform in regulated doses, using for this purpose the "Harcourt Regulator." He commences with .5 per cent. of chloroform vapor in the air breathed by the patient, and rises in one or two minutes to 2 per cent.

*(c) Maintenance of the Body Temperature.*

One of the depressant physiological effects of the general anaesthetic now requires consideration, and that is the high degree of power to lower the temperature of the body, and therewith emphasize the shock of the operation. For this reason I think that all operating rooms should be at a temperature of not less than 75° F., and that the operating table should be provided with a suitable hot water bed.

The wound should be constantly irrigated, usually with a solution of sublimate of 1 in 10,000 strength, or with saline. These lotions are put into the irrigator at a temperature of 115°, and the flow is regulated at will by an assistant.

The use of the hot irrigation fluid, however, is not only to prevent cooling of the nerve centres; it also has another purpose—namely, the arrest of capillary and arterial haemorrhage. I therefore take up the question now of haemorrhage; and it is, of course, only necessary to speak on this occasion of the haemorrhage from the central nervous system itself—unavoidable haemorrhage met with in dealing with the nerve tissues.

*(d) Haemorrhage.*

The first general principle is the recognition of the fact that as few vessels as possible should be obstructed. Where it is necessary to remove large portions of the brain, the branches of vessels to be divided should be severed as far as possible from the trunk.

*Arteries.*—From time to time it has been proposed to tie the main arteries—for example, the carotid, with the view of producing a large control of the blood flow from the cerebral arteries. But a thorough consideration of the cases in which this has had to be done by reason of operative necessities has convinced me that it is a measure to be avoided as far as it possibly can be. On the whole, I cannot suggest anything better than the original plan of tying all the arteries around the lesion before extirpating it.

*Arterioles and Capillaries.*—It is remarkably easy to arrest capillary oozing and arteriole oozing from the brain by the simple means of hot irrigation.