

through a very small opening left at one angle of the wound.

The patient is put back to bed and placed in the Fowler's position as soon as fully recovered from the anesthetic, and a normal color has returned to the face. This was done with Mr. S., who is sitting in that chair, just referred to. However, on my return visit a few hours afterwards his pulse was almost imperceptible and his face pale, so we had him at once placed in the horizontal posture until the next morning, when his condition was so much improved that we were able again to return him to the Fowler's position. The drainage tube is cleaned every two or three hours by using a large glass piston syringe, to which is attached a rubber catheter. A pint of normal saline is also given every two or three hours per rectum. Hypodermic stimulation may be necessary for a time.

If there be no vomiting the patient may have sips of hot water in six or twelve hours after the operation, albumen water in 24 hours, and Horlick's malted milk in 36 to 48 hours. The diet should be regulated with great care for some weeks after operation.

DIAGNOSTIC APHORISMS IN GYNÆCOLOGY.

(SELECTED)

BY ARTHUR E. GILES, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.S.

Surgeon to the Chelsea Hospital for Women; Gynaecologist to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Tottenham.

AN "aphorism" is defined as "a concise statement of a principle in science," and this definition expresses with sufficient accuracy what I wish to convey in the present remarks. That is to say, that I want to place before you in concise terms some of the principles that are helpful in gynæcological diagnosis.

I must premise that the statement of a principle implies a generalization, and a generalization is an expression of a substantial truth combined with a fractional element of error.

Aphorisms are not free from this flaw. They are general truths containing a germ of error: in other words, they formulate the general rules and probabilities, and do not take cognizance of the exceptions and possibilities.

Such aphorisms as I have to offer you are therefore intended to suggest the truth in diagnosis; but they do not claim to represent "the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

OF DIAGNOSIS IN GENERAL.

A few observations on diagnosis in general may be permitted. The first is that a diagnosis based on symptoms and unsupported by an ex-