

bandage, to prevent any opening of the incision, to be subsequently followed by a hernia.

The after treatment of plastic operations for the repair of the perineum or cervix resolves itself into rest and cleanliness. The patient should remain in bed for two weeks, and after that should take another week in getting up and about. If a gauze tampon has been introduced into the vagina it should be removed after forty-eight hours and a warm sterile water douche given daily.

Two aloin, strychnine and belladonna granules may be administered on the second evening after operation followed by a rectal enema in the morning.

R. W. GARRETT.

AUTO-INTOXICATION AS A CAUSE OF CERTAIN FORMS OF INSANITY.

IT is beyond a question of doubt that insanity is on the increase, as based on trustworthy authorities and reliable statistics. The subject is a most important one and demands the attention of all who are interested in so serious a matter. Some attribute this mental alienation to too high mental pressure during early education, and when the battle of life wages high, the strain proves too much for many, and unmistakable insanity is the result. Whilst admitting this over-pressure and excitement of the brain as a common cause of insanity, we must concede the fact that whilst this mental derangement may be located primarily in the brain, yet frequently the primary disease may have originated in other organs of the body, as the stomach or the intestines. The world of medicine was startled only a few years ago, when Gautier, of the Faculty of Medicine of Paris, announced the fact that poisonous animal alkaloids were not only produced in the body by the action of bacteria on nitrogenous matter, but also by the vital processes going on during the tissue metabolism. Since that time the micro-germ pathologist carried on extensive experiments in England, Italy, France and Germany, and corroborated the discovery of these noxious alkaloid poisons—pro-