

sides of the building, thus assuring a continuous current of pure air. All wards open upon the outside of the building - no intercommunication whatever—thus giving ready means of complete isolation if necessary. At each rear corner and removed fifteen feet from the main building are brick piers containing baths and closets. There is no plumbing in the building proper, it is confined to the piers, thus giving a circulating atmosphere between the closets and the wards. During the first fourteen months of Dr. Price's management, the baths and closets were within the building in connection with the wards, and during that period the temperatures of patients ranged 99, 100 or 101, with tongues fairly clean, the breasts sound, the nipples healthy, and the bowels acting freely, but as soon as the plumbing was removed the temperatures fell to normal. By running back over the temperature charts, an observer can at once fix the date of the alteration in plumbing. Throughout the building the strictest simplicity is observed. There are no carpets, but a small rug by the bedside, and there is scarcely a chair that could be dispensed with. *Scrupulous cleanliness* is exacted throughout all the management. Nurses are requested not to spare the laundry. The soiled linen is collected and sent to the laundry, every three hours. Each patient has her own wash basin and towel.

Maternities admit patients only when in labour, but here they are admitted approximately two weeks previous. Thus they become accustomed to their new surroundings, and with an abundance of pure air and nourishing food, they improve in condition wonderfully, and are better able to meet the demands of labour. They have the privilege of remaining for four weeks after delivery, and thus leave the institution in good condition.

Upon the admission of a patient, who is compelled to present her marriage certificate, she is given a bath, and puts on clean clothing. She is given a soap bath twice a week until confinement, her bowels kept free by an occasional saline. She has a clean hair mattress and sleeps on the fourth flat; she leaves her room in the morning and does not enter it until time to retire, during which interval it is thoroughly aired, and heated only half an hour before she is to occupy it. Upon the occurrence of

premonitory symptoms of labour, the patient is given a soap bath and a vaginal douche, bichlor. 1-2000, is dressed in clean clothing and goes to a clean delivery room, which is used only for that purpose. The physician and nurse also make a complete toilet, thus ensuring cleanliness in delivery as a rule only one examination is made. The after birth is delivered by expression, a second vaginal douche of bichloride, 1-2000, is given, and a quart or more of the solution poured over the mons and thighs, and the dressing is applied. The patient is then removed to a clean straw bed in the lying in ward.

The bowels are opened if necessary on second day by saline. All mothers nurse their children. The proverbial milk fever is here demonstrated to be a myth, as no rise of temperature takes place without septic infection. Ten to twelve days after confinement, the patient is allowed to get up. The straw bed she used during this period is destroyed and she is given a clean hair mattress. She is then removed to the convalescent ward where she remains till her departure.

*Forceps are very rarely used, nature generally being allowed to complete her own work.* Anæsthesia is used in about five per cent. Uremic convulsions are treated by severe purging by salines with chloral internally. All lacerations are repaired in the most careful manner. One porro operation at midnight, both mother and child saved.

Only three cases of ophthalmia have occurred during the seven years of Dr. Price's management. The first was delivered in the gutter as the woman was stepping from the carriage. The second was delivered in the bath room as she entered, and the third was delivered in the hallway. These cases were therefore delivered without bathing, toilet or anti-partum douche. Dr. Price maintains that if, in the next ten years, each woman in labour were given a 1-2000 bichloride anti partum douche, the blind asylums could be reduced five to one.

When Dr. Price took charge of the Retreat, he determined to apply and carry out all those refinements of technique which assure the most complete and satisfactory results - "perfect environs, clean approaches, everything within the four walls of the house without a suggestion of dirt, and also to scrupulously practise those principles of abdominal surgery which the experience of the