

at hand. This, which, by-the-way, can generally be obtained ready for use, is prepared after Lister's directions, in the following way: add one measure of water to ten parts by weight of crystalized carbolic acid, mix and add one measure of the mixture to five measures of olive oil in a suitable jar or wide-mouthed bottle; then at once introduce the cat-gut, the hanks being opened up to allow access of the liquid to them; cover and set aside in a cool place. It is found that the small quantity of water present makes all the difference possible in the quality of the ligature, causing the tissue of which the gut is composed to undergo a remarkable physical change, which has never yet been satisfactorily explained. This emulsion, so to speak, seems to deprive it of its peculiar slippery nature, and it is asserted that when properly prepared, a reef-knot tied upon it holds better than one of waxed silk. By the addition of chromic acid to the oily mixture, the "staying" power of the gut is materially increased.

The *Antiseptic Gauze* comes up next for consideration. This, which in the raw state is known as dairy or cheese-cloth, is prepared for surgical purposes as follows: Melt together in a water bath five parts of common resin, and seven parts of solid paraffin, then add one part of crystalized carbolic acid. The cotton-cloth, which is usually a yard wide, is cut into lengths of six yards, and folded to the dimensions of half a yard square. Several such pieces are placed in a dry hot chamber formed by two tin boxes placed one within the other, the interval being occupied by water, which is kept boiling by a couple of the gas stoves so commonly in use now-a-days. After two or three hours the heated gauze is removed and then rapidly replaced layer after layer, and sprinkled with the solution by means of a syringe having a number of minute perforations in its extremity, and supplied with wooden handles to protect the hands of the workman. A weight of about forty pounds in the shape of a lid, is put in the chamber to compress the charged cotton. This, also, should have been previously heated. Generally in the course of two or three hours the liquid will have become equally distributed throughout the gauze, and the material is fit for use. The