

examination is made. As the head passes through the vulva the attendant washes the child's eyes with a piece of jute moistened in sublimate solution, so that there has only been one case of ophthalmia neonatorum in five hundred births. Immediately after the delivery the vagina is washed out with clean boiled water, injuries to the vulva are at once repaired, the clothes are changed, an antiseptic pad applied to the vulva, and the patient is put to bed in the ward. As soon as a ward has received its tenth patient another ward is opened up and when it is full another. In the meantime, the patients are moved out of the first ward at the end of ten days, so that in twenty days from its opening all the occupants will have passed on to the convalescent ward, while the first ward is thoroughly cleaned out and left to air until its turn for occupation comes around again. Every two hours a laundry girl makes the rounds of the hospital with a closed basket and gathers up all soiled linen and takes it off to the laundry which is situated in a separate building. There are no water-closets in the house, but at the four corners of the main building there are detached towers connected with it by galleries closed in with glass in winter but open in summer, and in these towers are placed all the baths and w. c.'s. The wards are so placed as to have three sides exposed to the air and sunshine. The mattresses are filled with straw which is put fresh into a clean tick for each patient. Instead of napkins antiseptic pads are used to absorb the lochia. They are made as follows: a napkin of soft loose textured cotton is laid on the table, on it is placed a sheet of waxed paper, which any one can make; then a handful of sublimated jute is laid in the centre, then a layer of absorbent cotton and finally the napkin is caught up at the sides with a few threads. Several hundred of these are kept in stock, and of course they are burned when soiled. It is not often that we are able to carry out our ideal of what

things should be, but in the case of the Preston Retreat there is nothing to prevent it from being a model maternity, and it is one. Every mother must nurse her child which is put to the breast as soon as it is washed, and Dr. Price tells me he has never seen a suppurating breast.

It may be noticed that the ratio of forceps cases is very moderate, about 1 in 10, which is probably another secret of success. The temptation to use them must be very great, for the attendant is allowed to engage in private practice and is one of the busiest men in Philadelphia. On the evening of my arrival no less than three practitioners called in to engage his services in cases for laparotomy, for it is in this branch of gynecology that he is best known. He is an ardent follower of Tait, believing that abdominal section is the best, quickest and safest treatment for nearly all diseases of the female pelvic organs. Thus ovarian cysts, fibroid tumors, malignant disease, adherent ovaries, especially if prolapsed, enlarged tubes, especially if adherent, pyo, hydro and haemato-salpinx, extra uterine foetation should all be treated by removal alone. Especially does he abhor electricity in every shape and form. He is a young man, probably less than thirty-five, quick in speech and action, with deep set eyes which give him an intensely earnest expression. He began his career in the out-patient department of the Pennsylvania Hospital after having been a pupil of Goodell's. He first came into notice by reason of his success in abdominal sections, performed at the domiciles of the poor; often in the filthiest courts and streets in the city; his results being better than is usually obtained in the best appointed hospitals. He was enabled to do this by organizing a voluntary nurses association composed of young ladies who would go to a rickety house the day before an operation and make the patient and her room clean, the former with soap and water and the latter with whitewash.