

patient than he could do without such information.

Now, with regard to the preparation of the patient for abdominal section, the Nurse will understand, from what has already been said, that the point of chief importance to be attended to, is the regulation of the intestines. When the abdomen is opened, it is essential that the operator should find the intestines empty and flaccid, so that the operation shall not be impeded by the protrusion into the wound, or outside it, of large distended coils of intestine.

It is, therefore, necessary that an aperient should be given each night for three or four nights before the operation; that, if necessary, this should be repeated each morning, and that during the whole of this time the diet should be of as light, as simple, and as fluid a character as possible. It is wonderful what an improvement can be effected in a patient's condition in a few days by such treatment, and how much more suitable the case can, therefore, be made for operation, with proportionately increased chances of a successful issue.

It must be observed that no attempt is of course made to lay down any hard and fast rules of treatment, because every operator has his own particular methods, and in every individual case the Nurse must follow these out. All that these Lectures attempt to do, is to make plain the principles upon which treatment is founded, together with the reasons for the adoption of such treatment. The broad outlines and their meaning being understood, it becomes comparatively easy for any one to fill in the details by the assistance of ordinary common-sense and a general knowledge of Nursing.

In the next place, the patient's skin requires attention. It is of as much importance to her future welfare that her skin should be in a healthy condition, as it is that her other excretory organs should be actively working. A warm bath night and morning, with plenty of soap and the liberal use of a rough flesh glove, will not only make her more comfortable, but will enable her with greater ease to bear the enforced quietude after the operation; and the Nurse must remember that in many of these cases the patient has been so impeded in her movements, as well as so enfeebled in her strength, by the tumour from which she is suffering, that, if she has no one to assist her, the customary ablutions are often neglected from sheer inability to carry them out. This again explains, to some extent, the fact which is so frequently noted, that these patients show the most marked improvement in health and strength during the few days before the operation is performed, this being due simply and solely to their being properly nursed and cared for, while, at the same time, they are being properly prepared for the abdominal section.

(To be continued.)

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



H.R.H. Princess CHRISTIAN has graciously consented to accept the dedication of some verses, written by Miss MARIAN BEEDLE, on the occasion of the forthcoming Bazaar. These verses have been set to appropriate music. All members of the Association will most heartily endorse the sentiment expressed in the concluding verse:—

Sweet Princess Christian great and good
By our grand cause hath nobly stood;
She made us one great Sisterhood.

Miss BEEDLE is a most loyal and enthusiastic member of the Corporation.

The first Sessional Lecture will take place on Friday, the 16th inst., at 8 p.m., at 17, Old Cavendish Street, when Mrs. HUGHES will read a paper on "Why Nurses break down in Health."

The following is the programme of the Sessional Lectures, 1894-5, which will be given at the Offices. To Members, free; to the Public, one shilling.

Nov. 16th, 1894, at 8 p.m.—"Why Nurses break down in Health."—Mrs. Hughes (Manchester).

Jan. 18th, 1895, at 8 p.m.—"Private Nursing."—Mrs. Gray.

Feb. 15th, 1895, at 8 p.m.—"Practical Demonstration on the Nursing of Rectal and Abdominal Surgical Cases."—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

March 15th, at 8 p.m.—"The Modern Trained Nurse."—Sir Dyce Duckworth, M.D.

April, , at 8 p.m.—"Women as Lecturers."—Miss Annesley Kenealy.

The Annual Conversazione will be held at the Grafton Galleries, Piccadilly, on Friday, December 7th, 1894, at 8.30 p.m. Amongst those who have generously consented to give their services on the occasion are the following well-known Artists:—Miss Constance Egerton, Miss Kate Lee, Mr. Charles Butler, Miss Mabel Vaughan, Miss Ravenhill, Mr. Charles Rose, Mr. Egbert Roberts. Through the kindness of Mdlle. Marie Wolaska, orchestral pieces and instrumental solos will be performed by the celebrated Blue Zouave Orchestra: Conductor, Mdlle. Marie Wolaska; Violin Solo, Miss Bessie Greenhill; Flute Solo, Miss Marie Woolhouse; Cornet Solo, Miss Adeleine Parkyn. The prices of tickets are as follows:—Members, 1s.; Other Nurses, 2s. 6d.; Members' Friends, 5s. To admit one Member and a Friend, 5s. Applications for tickets should be made at once, to the Secretary, at the Offices, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W.

A Grand Bazaar will be held at the Grafton Galleries, Piccadilly, W., on December the 6th, 7th and 8th, in aid of the funds of the Royal British Nurses' Association. The Bazaar will be opened by H.R.H. Princess CARISTIAN of Schleswig-Holstein, at 2.30 p.m. each day. Admission: Thursday, 2.30 to 6 p.m., 2s. 6d.; 6 to 10 p.m., 1s. Friday, 2.30 to 8 p.m., 1s.; Members' Annual Conversazione, 8.30 to 12 p.m., admission by tickets only. Saturday, 2.30 to 6 p.m., 1s.; 6 to 10 p.m., 6d. Tickets for Entertainments, 1s. and 6d. Miss Kennedy's Exhibition, 6d.

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