

ditions, and for the cessation of menorrhagia or profuse losses in the case of fibroid tumours of the uterus. The operation differs but little from the procedure described in the removal of an ovarian cyst, except that there is, as a rule, no cyst which requires tapping, and the chief difficulty of the operation consists in finding the ovaries, and bringing them to the surface. When this is accomplished, the broad ligament is transfixed by the threaded needle, and the ovaries and tubes are tied off and removed, as was shown in the illustration last week. Very often patients suffer considerable pain after this operation, due, perhaps, to the fact that the ovarian tissue has generally not been so destroyed by disease as is the case when a large cystic tumour has been slowly growing; and, therefore, the crushing of the nerves by the ligatures causes greater after-pain than when, through long standing disease, these nerves have become less sensitive.

The next most frequent operation is that which is known as hysterectomy, or removal of the uterus itself. This is usually performed either for cancerous disease or for rapidly growing fibroid tumours, which sometimes attain to an extraordinary size, completely filling the abdominal cavity, disturbing the patient's nutrition by pressure on the digestive organs, and by its weight preventing her from taking exercise, and so injuring her general health; while profuse hæmorrhages undermine her strength.

This operation is, in several ways, more difficult and more dangerous than those already described. It consists in opening the abdominal cavity, and as the tumour cannot, as a general rule, be lessened in size, being of a hard solid nature, the incision requires sometimes to be made almost the whole length of the abdomen in order to extract the bulky mass. As soon as the tumour has been drawn out of the wound, large flat sponges are placed inside in order to prevent the intestines from protruding, and it is customary also at once to close the upper part of the wound by sutures for the same purpose. Then a wire is passed round the base of the tumour encircling the uterus as low as possible, and, by means of a special instrument which shall be described directly, this wire is screwed up so as to constrict completely all the uterine vessels.

Reference to the drawing shown last week will explain the fact that this wire is generally placed beneath the ovaries and Fallopian Tubes, and, therefore, also constricts the Broad Ligaments on both sides. The result, therefore, is that these organs are removed with the tumour, and it is important, if possible, that this should be done, because dangerous symptoms have occurred in several cases in which the ovaries had been merely tied off and left behind, and the profuse losses for

which the operation is most frequently performed have in such cases sometimes persisted, after the patient's recovery from the operation.

(To be continued.)

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS the President returned from Germany on the morning of the 19th inst., and at 3.45 p.m. met the Matrons in consultation, who are organizing the different stalls at the forthcoming Bazaar, to be held in December in the Grafton Galleries.

A meeting of the General Council was held at the offices at 5 p.m., Her Royal Highness the President presiding.

The course of Educational Lectures commenced on the 1st inst., and are open to Nurses at a reduced fee. Application for terms should be made to the Secretary, at 17, Old Cavendish Street, W.

On and after the 1st of January, 1895, the fee for registration will be £1 1s. instead of 10s. 6d. All Nurses who have already had three years' hospital training would be wise to send in their applications at once.

Miss E. J. R. Landale, of 4, Rutland Square, Edinburgh, has kindly offered to receive articles to be sold at the R.B.N.A. Bazaar from Members in Scotland. She will then forward them all to the office in London.

The Secretary begs to acknowledge with thanks: two crochet babies' spencers from Miss Norton Northeim. One box of scented soap from Miss A. R. Huntley (Wyke Regis). One Cloud, one Shawl, one embroidered Tea-cloth from a Friend.

It is hoped that the contributions will provide a wide and varied choice of Christmas Gifts, and that a large section of the public will take the opportunity of buying presents at the Nurses' Bazaar, thereby aiding the Association in the great national work in which it is engaged. Members who have friends desirous to assist in furnishing stalls at the Bazaar, and who are unable to work themselves, will find that Miss Lambert, M.R.B.N.A., of 7, Compton Street, Eastbourne, will execute orders with promptitude and skill at moderate charges.

Parcels should be directed to the Secretary, 17, Old Cavendish Street, W., and marked for the special stalls at which the contributor wishes them sold. All articles sent by private Nurses and their friends, should be addressed c/o Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W. All articles sent and duly received at the office, will be acknowledged through the official column in the NURSING RECORD, weekly.

ALICE RAVENHILL,
Secretary of the Corporation.

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