

acting as a nerve sedative, is the very drug which one would not use when one desires the recovery of intestinal action. This explanation is given at length, because in the text-books even of recent years, and to which Nurses refer, the routine treatment of irritability or pain by morphia is usually recommended. Whereas, at the present time, the most successful operators are those whose use of drugs is based upon an accurate acquaintance with the course of natural processes, and who have also had practical experience of the advantages of using in these cases aperients rather than nerve-sedatives.

Still, in many patients, the pain is so excessive after this operation that it becomes necessary to do something for their relief. In these cases, then, drugs, such as chloral or bromides, are usually prescribed for this purpose which have not the constipating tendency of the various preparations of opium.

Next to pain, there is always the tendency in these cases to hæmorrhage, which can be controlled, as a rule, by tightening up the wire; but which, in some cases, assumes a troublesome and almost a dangerous form, because the bleeding occurs from the stump underneath and below the wire. This is often a difficult matter to treat, because the Surgeon is, above all things, anxious to make no pressure upon the wound which might tend to prevent, or to break down, the adhesions beginning to be formed in the peritoneal edges of the wound.

Nurses should always, therefore, in such cases, have in readiness one of the powerful astringent powders, of which sulphate of iron is, perhaps, one of the most useful. If the hæmorrhage from under the wire is at all rapid, the clots should be gently removed by a little cotton-wool wrapped round a Playfair's probe, and on the dried surface of the wound a little sulphate of iron might be blown through a paper funnel about two inches in length, and made by twisting up a sheet of note-paper. Then a little cotton-wool should be gently inserted under the wire so that any further blood can coagulate upon it. Of course, this treatment should only be adopted when the doctor cannot be obtained at once, and the hæmorrhage seems to be progressing; but as soon as any bleeding occurs from under the wire, the nurse should immediately send for the doctor.

When the stump is removed under normal conditions, a crater is usually left in this position which gradually heals up from the bottom, and which requires, therefore, to be kept extremely clean and healthy. The best dressing, perhaps, is boracic ointment, but every operator will probably direct the use of some special application which he prefers. The Nurse will remember that the process of healing is slow in any case, and that considerable care must be taken in permitting the patient to move until the wound is quite firm and consolidated.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



Her Royal Highness the President has graciously met a number of the Matrons interested in the forthcoming Bazaar, at which Mrs. Spencer, the Hon. Sec., read a short report of the progress made during the absence of the President, and submitted to her the kindly offers of help which had been received at the Offices from many of the well-wishers of the Association. The Grafton Galleries, Grafton Street, Piccadilly, a most magnificent and adaptable suite of rooms for the purpose, have been engaged for the 6th, 7th, and 8th of December, and the President has graciously offered to open the Bazaar, and preside at the centre stall. Bands and entertainments have been generously offered by numerous *artistes*, and it is contemplated that, when organised, the arrangements will be very complete. The stalls will be artistically arranged and draped by Messrs. Godyer, of Bond Street.

The 7th of December being the Eighth birthday of the Association, the Annual Conversation will be held on the evening of that day, the Bazaar being closed from 7 p.m. to all but ticket holders.

Her Royal Highness the President has graciously expressed her intention of being present and of presenting all Badges to Members ordering them from the present date in time to be ready for the Conversation.

Applications for tickets should be made at an early date to the Secretary at the Offices, 17, Old Cavendish Street, London, W., accompanied by a stamped and directed envelope. The prices of tickets are as follows—

For all Members, one shilling each.

For other Nurses, two shillings and sixpence each.

For Members' friends, five shillings each.

To admit one Member and a friend, five shillings.

Uniform or evening dress.

The Programme will be varied and attractive.

Further details will be printed and enclosed with all tickets sent from the office.

The Quarterly Council Meeting was held at the Offices on Friday the 19th, at 5 p.m. Her Royal Highness the President was in the chair; about seventy Members being present; this large attendance being a satisfactory proof of the interest taken by the new Council in the work of the Association. The following report from the Executive Committee was read and adopted:—

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The interval which has passed since the General Council was last assembled, has been marked by events which will be memorable in the history of the Corporation.

The Annual Meeting, which was held in Windsor on the 25th of July, was an event both brilliant and successful. The Queen; His Royal Highness Prince Christian, the Ranger of the Forest; and, above all, Her Royal Highness the President, by her presence and personal efforts combined to show their gracious goodwill to British Nurses, and to make all possible provision for their enjoyment. For such generous acts of hospitality and kindness, the General Council are invited to express their heartfelt and loyal thanks. Their grateful acknowledgments are due to the

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