

during the course of the operation. When an abscess containing *Bacillus coli* forms, he is much interested, and refers to the remarkable habit that *coli* bacilli have of wandering through the coats of the intestine in cases of intestinal anastomosis, separation of adhesions, &c. This pernicious habit of the *Bacillus coli* seems to be particularly common in operations in the pelvis. It never seems to occur to the surgeon that he has introduced the sepsis during his operation, and that migration of bacteria, if it occurs at all, only takes place through the inflamed wall of the intestine.

he says: 'Carbolic lotion! Who on earth uses antiseptics nowadays? I thought that no one out of an asylum ever thought of them. Take it away and bring me a bowl of boiled water.' He does not disinfect his hands, but trusts to the protection of boiled gloves, which, however, are soiled at the very beginning by being put on with unsterilized hands. He thinks that he is no end of a great man, and the unfortunate thing is that the nurses and students think so too and follow his fatal example. I wonder whether, if such a man had a son at the Front at the present time, he would feel happy in the



THE TZARINA ASSISTING AT AN OPERATION ON A WOUNDED RUSSIAN SOLDIER.

"I think the man who annoys me most is the boiled water man!

"Some surgeons seem to take a particular pride in emphasizing their contempt for antiseptics and the extreme simplicity of their methods. A surgeon comes to an operation and finds a dish containing some fluid. He asks what that is, and the nurse, who has been carefully trained in real aseptic work, says, in fear and trembling, 'That is carbolic lotion for your instruments.' It is most instructive to see the look of contempt on the surgeon's face as

thought that the only thing that the surgeon had at hand for the treatment of wounds in war was a basin of boiled water! The futility and littleness of it all makes me sick.

"The result of the slackness is that a good many men are being sent out from the schools every year who are not impressed with the bacteriological problem involved in the treatment of wounds, or who have come to believe that no such problem is involved, while they have become thoroughly impregnated with the idea that the use of antiseptics is an abomina-

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