

RAPID LATERAL VERSION OF THE PATIENT IN TONSIL AND ADENOID OPERATIONS.

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It is of considerable advantage in operations such as removal of tonsils and adenoids to be able to quickly rotate the patient on the side so as to empty the mouth of blood. A method which facilitates this manœuvre is presently described. With children, rotation may be effected by a

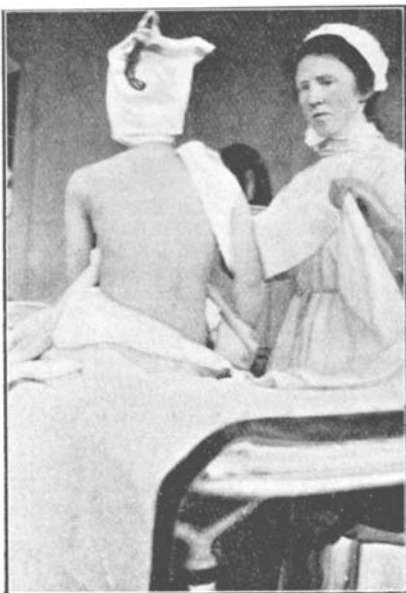


FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.

single towel, which is folded upon itself to make a band 6 in. wide. The method of application is illustrated in the photographs. One end of the towel is passed round the outer side of the right arm, and then tucked through the axilla and brought up behind as illustrated (Fig. 1); the other end traverses the back and passes round the outer side of the left arm (Fig. 2), and then is usually held by a nurse standing behind the surgeon operating. Rotation is very quickly achieved by a combined partial lift and pull over (Fig. 3). The towel automatically tightens on and fixes the right arm, and, if brought over the chest, enables the nurse or operator to control both arms should the child prove fractious during induction of anæsthesia. The head should always be steadied during the rotation manœuvre by the anæsthetist.

The method has been used by me for the last four years and has proved to be of considerable service, especially in cases where no nurse

is available. For adults, a roller towel is always used and applied as shown in the illustration (Fig. 4). I find it better in the adult cases to

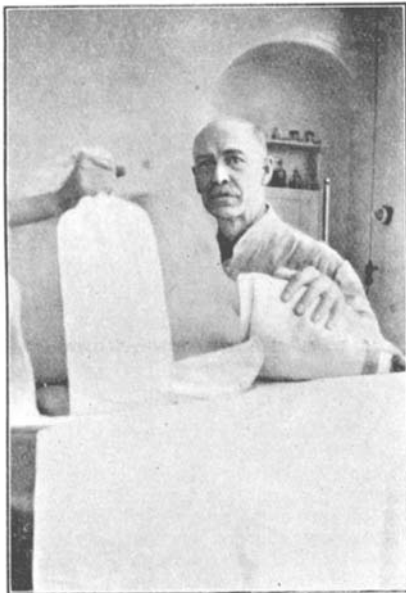


FIG. 3.



FIG. 4.

steady the right shoulder with the left hand and then pull them over. The amount of leverage the towel affords is astonishing, and incidentally it has given my orderly great assistance in rolling over the muscularly-developed subjects met with in a military hospital during tonsillectomies.