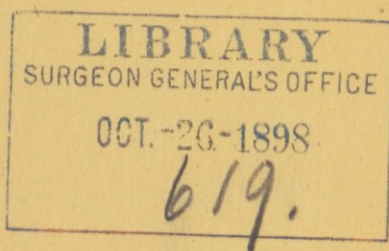


The Sheet-Sling in 3
forceps = deliveries.



THE SHEET-SLING IN FORCEPS DELIVERIES.*

A NOTE

BY ROBERT L. DICKINSON, M. D.,

BROOKLYN,

LECTURER ON OBSTETRICS, LONG ISLAND COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

"A SIMPLE thing is this locomotive," said a friend of mine. "We have invented away its complicated parts." We need to invent away the complicated obstetric devices. Here is a small contribution toward that end which claims not originality, but every-day usefulness.

The crutches devised to steady the flexed lower limbs during operations do their work well, but are too cumbersome to carry. The plan shown in the sketch is a satisfactory substitute. A sheet is rolled and passed behind the neck and under the bent knees, and the thighs are flexed as far as possible. The extreme flexion of the knee gives the ham such a solid grip on the sheet that no sidewise slipping can



A simple harness for forceps operations.

occur, and the knees can be adjusted at any distance apart. The patient balances herself. She can not kick. The only assistant required is the one who gives the chloroform and "hands things." It is a good friend in low forceps-deliveries, in breech-extractions, in easy versions, and in restoration of the perinæum. Even in the severer cases that are major operations and require ether, operating-table, and assistants, it helps. For Sims's position it should go back of the shoulder on the upper side.

* Presented before the Medical Society of the State of New York at its eighty-fourth annual meeting.

