

os, the proper method was to give chloroform, to dilate the os, and remove the placenta, using antiseptic precautions. In certain cases the forceps would not bring everything away; and in cases it was difficult to dilate the os. He had found the dilators often did not work satisfactorily. His method was to plug the vagina with an antiseptic plug and give large doses of quinine. Sometimes he administered good doses of sulphate of magnesia. A number of times he had removed the placenta in that way without any particular difficulty.

Dr. W. J. Wilson said he had given the chlorate of potash with good results in a few cases. In cases where the dead fœtus was seemingly about to be expelled, he had been able, by administering this drug, to carry the woman over some months, and have the child come all right. The last time he had given chlorate of potash the woman developed albuminuria. He was not sure whether the drug had anything to do with it or not. For scraping out the uterus he had used the dull curette, but had found that even after he had gone over the ground carefully, yet in the course of a week or two he had noticed pieces of the after-birth come away. That had made him doubtful of the good effects of the dull curette; he much preferred to get his finger in, the patient being under chloroform. He could then explore the whole interior. He had given ergot as a routine treatment.

Dr. Macdonald, in replying, said he did not advise packing in every case; it was not necessary for the purpose of restraining hæmorrhage even every time. It was necessary sometimes for that purpose. Especially was this true in cases of uterine engorgement, caused say by heart disease, such as mitral stenosis. He had had such cases where the hæmorrhage was truly alarming. Packing was absolutely necessary. He did not use a curette any duller than the one presented, which he found worked satisfactorily. Each operator became accustomed to his own instrument. The doctor reported a case where a small portion of placenta left behind had caused hæmorrhage for months. It was easily detected and removed by the curette under chloroform, with complete subsidence of the hæmorrhage. In such a case as Dr. Greig described he thought under the chloroform the finger might act as a satisfactory dilator. In regard to that class in which syphilis was the causative agent, he thought prevention was the point in the treatment. No man who had syphilis should marry until his medical adviser gave permission. He had not found the placental forceps very satisfactory.

Dr. Jas. MacCallum read a paper on "Hysterical Deafness." It was discussed by Dr. Palmer.

The Society then adjourned.