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SOME OBSTETRICAL NOTES.

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During the last 20 years some interesting cases of midwifery have come under my notice, some of which I have never yet reported, and which may prove of interest to the busy practitioner, who is most likely to meet with similar ones. The following two cases of hydrocephalus were puzzling,—the first one to myself, occurring as it did in the beginning of my practice; and the second to the family physician in connection with whom I was called to see the case.

CASE I was a multipara of some 30 years of age, who sent for me to attend her in her confinement. In due time the os became fully dilated, the bag of waters

broke, but the head did not engage in the pelvis.

On careful examination the pelvis was found to be of normal size, but the child's head seemed very large. After waiting several hours, labor going on furiously and no progress being made, I decided to apply my long Baudeloque forceps, the only one I ever use, and the best forceps, in my opinion, that have ever been made, and made prolonged and forcible efforts at delivery, but was unable to make the head descend. I went in search of my friend Dr. Kennedy, who also tried to deliver with forceps, but with no better success. He then introduced his hand above the brim of the pelvis, and perceived that it was a case of hydrocephalus, when he quickly punctured the fontanelle, and allowed what appeared to be an enormous quantity of water to escape, when the head quickly descended, and the child was born within a few minutes, but of course dead.

In this case the force used in our ineffectual efforts at delivery with the forceps had considerably bruised the cellular tissue