

been gone a quarter of an hour when we were sent for again. They told us that immediately after we went away, which was five minutes after delivery, she was seized with a shivering and a vomiting, and had fainted. We found her in a swoon, and held spirits to her nose; but she could not swallow, and died in about half an hour after delivery.'—“Smellie's Midwifery,” Vol II, page 272.

Criticize the treatment. What treatment would you suggest? What was the cause of death?

Answer not to contain more than three hundred words.

#### STUDENT'S REPORT.

##### *Criticism of Treatment.*

1. The doctor should have been there sooner. This error may be attributed to *nurse* or *doctor* or *both*.

2. The child being dead, and woman not suffering, time should have been taken to give an anesthetic before dilating the contracted os with such force.

3. After os was dilated, it wasn't necessary to introduce the hand into uterus.

4. Placenta was removed too soon after delivery of child, and should have been examined to see that membranes and placenta were all present. Uterus was not controlled.

5. Doctor should have remained an hour with patient instead of five minutes, after labor.

6. After returning, the treatment was not suitable for such a grave condition.

##### *Treatment Suggested.*

1. On arrival, give anesthetic, dilate the os, and then remove the child.

2. After waiting for 15, 20 or 25 minutes begin expressing the placenta very slowly.

3. Examine the placenta carefully, and if not all present introduce hand and remove the rest. Control uterus with hand.

4. Remain in house for one hour watching patient and treating any complication arising.

5. For serious symptoms give hypodermically, morphia, grs. 1-4, and repeat in ten or fifteen minutes if necessary.

6. Raise the foot of bed and have one doctor give saline by bowel, interstitially or intravenously, as deemed best. Then bandage extremities.

7. The other doctor should give anesthetic immediately and enter uterus to ascertain the cause and remove it if possible. Palpate abdomen to find condition of uterus.