

also tincture of aconite (Fleming's) two minims every two hours. Lochia unabated.

15th. Much better this morning, and took some tea and toast with relish. Bowels and bladder act freely; pulse 130; lochia natural. In the evening not so well; very drowsy; respirations low, labored, and sighing, twelve to the minute; pulse 120; morphia discontinued.

16th and 17th. Improving. Pulse 120.

18th. Not so well. Great abdominal pain and slight meteorism; bowels very relaxed. Ordered the hot turpentine epithems to be repeated, and the following mixture: Sulphate of zinc, ten grains; dilute sulphuric acid, one drachm; solution muriate of morphia, a drachm and a half; water, three ounces. Two teaspoonfuls of this every six hours.

19th. Much improved, and since then has gradually recovered, so that by the end of the month,—not two weeks from her confinement,—she was able to walk about her room.

*Remarks.*—As the urine was not tested, I cannot say positively that uræmic contamination of the blood was not present, although the swelled feet, &c., which usually accompany such a condition, were absent. But I would submit whether the nervous shocks she had received may not probably have caused such a change in the condition of the reflex nerve centres, as to render them sufficiently sensitive to the exciting cause, to induce the convulsions, apart from any blood contamination or venous congestion.

The exciting cause of the convulsions in this case was evidently due to the irritation produced by the uterine efforts to dilate an unyielding os; as the fits were not present during the quiescent state of the uterus, and were not permanently relieved till its entire contents were expelled.

In such cases as the above, the most hopeful and successful course to pursue is to effect delivery as soon as possible; and that this can be done when the os is but partially dilated is demonstrated by this case where the extent of dilatation was barely sufficient to admit the blades of the forceps.

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## HOSPITAL REPORTS.

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*Montreal General Hospital. Case of Melanotic Cancer, under the care of W. E. SCOTT, M.D., Prof. Anatomy, McGill College. Reported by Mr. M. R. MEIGS.*

Julia Leonard, aged forty, was admitted into Montreal General Hospital, Sept. 5th, 1864, under the care of Dr. Scott. She has a tumor