

CANADA

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CASE OF HYDROPS AMNII—REMARKABLY SHORT FUNIS.

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On the night of the 19th August I was hastily summoned to attend Mrs. H., who was said to be in labour with her eighth child. I found the lady sitting upon the side of her bed, firmly grasping her abdomen and crying out from intense pain in that region; to use the patient's own words, she "felt as though she would burst." Her face was cyanotic, bore an anxious expression, eyes were staring, and altogether was in a very distressing condition.

I ascertained that she would not have completed her term of pregnancy before the middle of October; and even now was in doubt as to whether she was actually in labour, she felt so very different to what she had experienced with any of her former pregnancies. I noticed whilst she sat on the side of the bed that her abdomen was very much distended, and made a remark to that effect; to which the patient replied that she had never been so utterly helpless at any time—in fact, lately, had not been able to get about at all. There was very urgent dyspnoea, which added very much to her discomfort.

On making a vaginal examination, I found the os about the size of a fifty cent piece, and very thin. Passing my hand over the abdomen, I was very much amazed to find such enormous distension; and tried also to make out, if possible, the position of the foetus, but this I found it quite impossible to accomplish.