

The method of treatment by electricity has objections.

There is no certainty that the foetus will be killed and the growth stopped. Tuttle reports a case where the faradic current was passed through the mass for ten days without reducing size of tumour. In this case the thorough and intelligent use of electricity for the purpose of destroying the embryo was followed by no evident amelioration of symptoms nor interruption in growth of tumour, but, on the contrary, continued to grow worse.

The treatment is not without danger. Brothers cites four cases which had presented alarming symptoms during or after the application of electricity. Baldy of Philadelphia had a case where severe peritonitis followed a single application.

It is slow in its action, and while waiting for its effects other accidents may happen, as tubal pregnancy frequently ruptures before the 13th week.

It almost invariably leaves the patient with dangerous after conditions, even in cases reputed as cured. The sac and contents not infrequently had to be removed later by laparotomy. Tuttle reports the case of a foetus passed by rectum after electrical treatment. Hanks reports cases in which, after electricity, the foetus passed by the bladder, rectum and uterus. Thus it appears as an unscientific and wholly unsurgical procedure; and even though the embryo be destroyed, it does not give the patient immunity from subsequent dangers.

All tubal pregnancies must rupture, and this event may take place from the 8th to 14th week; the tension caused by the growth of the gestation brings on a spasm of the muscular walls, causing a separation of a portion of the placenta and allows of bleeding; part of the blood passes through the uterus, the rest remaining increases distension. This process repeated, in the end causes rupture, which may take two directions—intra-peritoneal, *the fatal form*; or into the broad ligament, *the extra-peritoneal form*.

In the "intra-peritoneal form" there are two cardinal symptoms—shock and hemorrhage; there is collapse, shown by cold, clammy skin, intense pallor, vomiting, etc., death often ensuing in a few hours. The patient may recover from the