

Thus by an easy method may the most strumous fistulæ be traced to their extremities, and a strong caustic power applied to the bottom of the wound, from whence it is so desirable granulations should arise.

A limited sphere of private practice enables me only to give these two cases; but I have no hesitation in saying, that if this system be approved of and practised by surgeons generally, they would have as much reason to be satisfied with it as myself and patients, and the use of the knife would become almost obsolete. When a silver and copper wire are introduced together, after having been dipped in the acid, the caustic effect is intense, (likened by the patient to a red-hot wire) and if allowed to remain too long, would destroy the tissues with which they were in contact. This, I apprehend, is the effect of the galvanic action set up by the contact of the copper and silver wire with the acid acting upon them.

Before concluding, I will just observe, that the treatment in the first case was put into practice some time before the report of the treatment of "Fistula and Hæmorrhoids by Platinum Wire made red hot by Galvanic Battery, by Mr. Marshall, of University College Hospital," published in *The Lancet*.

MIDWIFERY.

EXAMPLES OF LARGE INFANTS.

Dr. Siebold, in a recent paper in the *Zeitschrift für Geburtsk.* (vol. xxix, p. 178), observes, that when new-born infants are not actually weighed, the most ridiculous exaggerations prevail in respect to the estimates of the weight of the larger ones. Since 1825, he has had all the children weighed at the Berlin, Marburg, and Gottingen Institutions, with which he has been successively connected, and the heaviest he has met with only reached 11¾ lbs., notwithstanding we peruse fabulous statements of 20 lbs. being attained.

That such statements, however, are not always fabulous, is seen from the fact of a recent instance recorded in the *American Journal* by Dr. Johnston, in which the child weighed exactly 20 lbs., and the placenta 3 lbs. Its length was 25½ inches, the breadth of the shoulders 8½, and of the hips 7¾ inches. The occipito-mental diameter was 6¾ inches; the occipito-frontal 5¾, and the biparietal 4¾ inches. The labour was accomplished in eight hours; but, owing to the great delay which the passage of the shoulders and hips entailed, the child was still-born.

In another case recently observed by M. Depaul, the child which was born dead, with the epidermis detached, after version, weighed 6½ kilogrammes (nearly 14½ lbs.) and measured 62 centimetres (about 21 inches) in place of from 45 to 48, from head to foot.—*Amer. Jour. Med. Sc.*

COMPRESSION OF THE AORTA IN UTERINE HÆMORRHAGE.

M. Chaillly-Honoié considers that this practice is not resorted to so frequently as from its merits it deserves to be; and believes, that had it been employed in one or two cases in which transfusion has been lately performed, it would have rendered that *dernier ressort* unnecessary, or would have enabled it to save life when employed. Rudiger employed compression so long back as