

thoroughly appreciated her situation and not only entirely willing but eager to have something done for her. There were no signs of septicæmia. Examination disclosed the uterus to be empty and normal in size and otherwise. By palpation the fetus could be felt lying in the abdominal cavity, the head apparently in the right lumbar region. She had already been made aware of the remoteness of any probability of recovery, fully understanding that the alternative was death from septicæmia or exhaustion. April 1, at eleven o'clock, laparotomy was made, the initial incision; in the linea alba, extending from the navel to the pubis. On getting into the cavity, the back of the child was disclosed, and by manipulation the head was found in the epigastric region. The fetus was of immense size, and before attempting to remove it I was compelled to extend the incision upwards almost or quite to the ensiform cartilage.

The child lay face downward among the intestines, and except a little strip of membranous material lying across its buttocks absolutely uncovered and loose in the abdominal cavity. The right tube was ruptured and showed that it had withstood considerable distention prior to giving way. The fetus was far advanced in decomposition, and on lifting it from its position I found portions of the intestines of a dark purple hue, the ascending color being almost black, from pressure and consequent mortification. Of the sac the only trace which remained in the cavity was the membranous strip which covered the buttock as before stated. The peritoneum was dark and congested in patches.

The dead fetus being removed, the placenta was found to be attached to the uterus, the right broad ligament, the omentum, the intestines and the peritoneum. In the examination of the attachment there was a very slight involuntary traction upon the placenta; being partially decomposed ruptured it, and a most appalling hemorrhage ensued; and although compression of the abdominal aorta was made almost instantly, so tremendous and sudden was the gush that not less than six quarts of blood were lost. The remainder of the placenta was then removed.

Finding considerable hemorrhage to continue from the omentum at the points of placental attachment, I ligated and removed about twelve inches thereof. The cavity was then thoroughly cleansed and the wound closed under antiseptic precautions. The patient was very nearly spent, but rallied under hypodermic injections of brandy. After she was put to bed hiccough set in and was momentarily controlled by ether and milk. It recurred, however, again and again, and the patient succumbed ten hours after the operation. The fetus weighed fifteen pounds.—By Dr. Waldo, in the *St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal*.

PROFESSOR CHOUPEE is credited with stating that antipyrin, when given with ergot, produces painless uterine contractions, and therefore is a most useful combination after childbirth and also in cases of painful menstruation.

A CASE of well-masked epilepsy in a girl of eleven years, due to ascarides, was lately, according to French reports, entirely relieved by removal of the worms by a vermifuge. No attacks recurred for thirteen years, when there was a severe shock from fright, with immediate resumption of the attacks, persisting till now. This is of interest as showing that epileptic attacks may be produced by entirely different causes in a person predisposed, as in the case cited, to the disease.

ZINC, OXIDE OF, IN DIARRHŒA.—Dr. M. Dupre, in the *Brit. Med. Jour.*: This is by far the most effectual remedy in infantile diarrhœa. It should be prepared as follows: R Sublimed oxide of zinc, 3.50 grammes; bicarbonate of soda, 1.50 grammes; tincture of kremeria, 20 drops; plain syrup, 30 drops. A teaspoonful of this preparation is given every half hour until vomiting and diarrhœa have ceased. The first teaspoonful stops the vomiting, and the third or fourth the diarrhœa. In the few cases in which this treatment fails in entirely checking the disease, it gives great relief and prevents complications. From 1884, 234 cases, all of which occurred during the months of July, August and September, were treated with only eight deaths.