

*Feb. 23.* Three natural motions and no pain. Temp. normal.

*Feb. 24.* Had a good night. Two natural motions; general condition improved.

*Feb. 28.* Small abscess formed under its chin, which I opened. General condition much improved. Milk not agreeing well. There was no bleeding after the 22nd, and the child continued to improve slowly, but never could tolerate milk in any shape or form, watered, boiled, condensed, peptonised, humanised, or any other way. It did best on Nestle's food. It was troubled all through the summer with spells of diarrhoea, but as weather got colder he improved very much.

I watched the case very carefully and had a most intelligent nurse who took a great interest in it also, and to whose care and attention the child no doubt owed its life. We were very much astonished at the large quantity of blood lost. I did not think it possible for a child to contain so much blood, as that one lost. We kept the child wrapped up in warm flannels and kept rubbing its limbs frequently. It was always able to take lots of milk and water—its mother not having any milk for it—until the bleeding ceased, and after that it never seemed able to take milk at all. At first the milk was given cold, but as this seemed to set up peristalsis it was given warm. It was also given small doses of liquid extract *Hamamelis* and *Ergot*—every two hours and kept in a drowsy state with opium. Should I ever meet with another similar case with pain, &c., I would begin the opium right away and keep it under the influence of it all the time, if it was where I could see it very often, or had a reliable nurse to depend upon. I think the opium was the most important part of the treatment in this case, next to the good nursing.

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 1st, 1892.

## FATTY DEGENERATION OF THE PLACENTA.

### NOTES OF A CASE.

BY H. GEORGE ADDY, M. D., ST. JOHN, N. B.

GENTLEMEN,—

When requested by your esteemed president to present a subject or read a small essay before the Society, I answered that it would be impossible to bring anything new or instructive before an assembly of medical gentlemen, many of whom are but lately from within the walls of some of the finest and most honored universities in the land, where every subject recent in Physiology and Pathology with the aid of Chemistry and Microscopy was made easy and plain and every new idea proposed and demonstrated as to cause and effect, utility or otherwise.

Besides this, I expected to be able to present before you a Pathological specimen that might serve as a study from which to start. Having given the specimen to my son for microscopical examination a few days before his removal to the General Hospital, the man in removing his effects from his office lost the specimen before either he or I had examined it. I regretted it much, as it was one of the largest and best I had ever met with in practice. Not being able to present it, I will try and describe it and the case generally.

It was what we generally call a fatty or degenerated placenta and its concomitants. Perhaps the best way would be for me to describe as far as I can the general appearance of the case.

The patient was a stout, strong, healthy woman, age about 30 years, weight 175 lbs, florid complexion, lively spirit, and quick action. I had attended her in four previous labors without any difficulty. This time, when about three and a half months advanced in pregnancy, she took a long walk such as she had often done before. On arriving at home was taken with a chill or rigor and slight pain during the night. In the

In 1823 quinine cost \$20 per ounce; now it costs about 20 cents.