

lady of German birth, 40 years old; has given birth twice to twins, and has now five children living.

Upon examination, the Doctor found the os uteri about an inch dilated, and the head presenting. The liquor amnii had escaped about three hours previously. The pains continued light, until 2 P. M., when the os was sufficiently dilated to permit the use of instruments. A severe pain occurred about this time, which caused some progress; in five minutes, a similar one, and soon another, which promises to be still stronger, but suddenly began to die away, while the head gradually receded, and flowing commenced.

The Doctor, satisfied that a rupture had taken place, turned and delivered the head with instruments, unable to do so otherwise. The child—a male—was dead when born, and weighed 8½ lbs. The placenta was found detached, and delivered at once.

A further examination revealed a rupture to the right of the median line, through which the Doctor readily passed his hand, and removed a couple of handfuls of blood, when the womb began to contract rapidly. The woman, being now threatened with syncope, was given three 2-dr. doses of brandy every eight minutes. A Dover's powder being now given, she was allowed to rest 2½ hours. Reaction commenced—pulse 100 per minute. A powder of 3 grs. calomel and ½ gr. opium was ordered to be given every two hours; also, 2 dr. nitrate of potash, to be dissolved in half a tumbler of water, of which a dr. was to be given every hour. During the night, tympanitis set in, became very severe, and lasted about three weeks, subsiding gradually with the diarrhoea. A mush poultice was kept on bowels for the first ten days, when an eruption of vesicles appeared on abdomen.

May 28, 8 A. M.—Pulse 125. Continued solution of potash, and ordered 5 gr. calomel and 1 gr. opium every two hours.

8 P. M.—Omitted solution of potash, and give 10 grs. *til.* *cc.*gelsemium every four hours for forty-eight.

29th, 8 A. M.—Pulse 140. Gave 10 grs. calomel, 1½ gr. opium every three hours for six days, when bowels were moved with an injection of soap-suds.

June 5th.—Pulse 150. Bowels moved about eight times daily for the ensuing week, then gradually improved, and she vomited occasionally during the next three weeks.

Previous remedies omitted. 3 grs. nitro-muriatic acid given every four hours for thirty-six, and ½ gr. nitrate of silver in solution every four hours.

6th.—Lochial discharge now occurred, for the first time.

After two weeks, a pill of 2 gr. quinia and 1 gr. precipitated carbonate of iron were given every four hours for four or five days, when tympanitis had nearly subsided.

After which, 15 grs. tr. ferri chlor. and 2 gr. chlorate potass, in syrup, were given four times daily.

The diet consisted mainly of crust, coffee, barley and rice water, for the first two weeks; after which she was able to take bland articles of nourishment.

July 28.—The woman is around, attending to her ordinary household duties.—*Chicago Med. Exam.*

## SUB-NITRATE OF BISMUTH, IN UTERINE DISEASES.

Chas. M. Shoyer, M.D., Leavenworth, says, I can find no mention made, in the works on diseases of females, of the employment of bismuth in the treatment of leucorrhoeal discharges and ulcerations of the vaginal portions of the uterus; and yet it is the *safest* and *best* local application that I ever tried. I order the vagina to be well syringed with quite warm water, and then introducing a suitable speculum, (and here permit me to say, that we should never make use of a speculum large enough to give much pain), I wipe the parts dry with raw cotton, and apply the bismuth freely, all over the ulcerations and cervix, and if, the vagina is very red and sensitive, to it also. I repeat this once in forty-eight hours, and only syringe the vagina after an interval of twenty-four hours. The leucorrhoea usually yields after two applications, and the ulceration does not require more than four.

In some cases I have applied argent nitras, the first time, and subsequently the bismuth, though it is rare for cases to resist the bismuth alone. My first case was an old lady of fifty-four, who had been under treatment with other physicians for a year, and every kind of caustic and astringent had been applied, including cotton wet with glycerine and tannin and glycerine. On examination I found the worst case of ulceration that I ever saw in private practice; accompanied by a profuse leucorrhoeal discharge of a greenish-yellow pus, mixed with albuminous mucus from the cervical canal; there was great constitutional disturbance, dysuria and rectal tenesmus; it required only four applications to cure the ulceration and leucorrhoea, and an opium suppository in the rectum, cured the dysuria, tenesmus and constitutional disturbance.

A case of threatened miscarriage at four months, with hemorrhage from the vagina, was examined with the speculum, and revealed an ulcerated os with albuminous mucus, issuing from the lips and bleeding at the slightest touch; a few applications of bismuth quite cured the leucorrhoea and ulceration, and quieted all apprehension as to a miscarriage, by removing the evident cause of the hemorrhage. I might instance more cases, but these will serve to show how useful the remedy really is, and it cannot require much argument to prove its superiority over caustics and irritating astringents. Perhaps the tannate of bismuth and sub-carbonate, may be found of even more efficacy.—*Leavenworth Medical Herald.*

## Complete Forward Dislocation of the Tibia and Fibula upon the Femur.

[We are indebted to the kindness of Prof. F. H. Hamilton for the notes of the following case, which occurred in the practice of his correspondent, Dr. Charles S. Downes, of McIndoe's Falls, Caledonia county, Vermont.—Ed. N. Y. M. J.]

DEAR DOCTOR: Agreeable to promise made you at Washington. I send you the memorand. of a case of Complete Forward Dislocation of the Tibia and Fibula upon the Femur, treated by myself and Dr. Levi Burton.

Oct. 16, 1861, I was summoned to Washington, Vt., in consultation with Dr. Burton, of West