

Birth of a decomposed child :

III.—Primipara ; presented the known subjective symptoms which point to the death of the child. Heart sounds not distinctly heard. Head position. In the beginning of the first stage, before the water escaped :

Temperature of uterus 39,0C.

“ “ vagina 38,6C.

Repeated measurements after three hours :

Temperature of uterus 39,2C.

“ “ vagina 38,7C.

The diagnosis, that the child lived was confirmed.

IV.—Premature labor in the seventh month cervix uteri patent, and easily passable to thermometer.

Temperature of uterus 38,5C.

“ “ vagina 38,5C.

Birth of a decomposed foetus 10 hours after measurement.

V.—At the end of the third month in this case, pains and metrorrhagia came on. Repetition of the bleeding in the 4th and 5th month. Measurement in the 5th month :

Temperature of the uterus 38,4C.

“ “ vagina 38,6C.

From these measurements, retention of a dead foetus was diagnosed. The author states that the value of his method has been tested by Fehling of Leipzig, and held good in a series of eighteen cases, with the exception of two. In one of these cases the elevation of temperature with the dead foetus depended upon a febrile condition of the patient, which had set in before or during the labour. Both authors met with cases in which the death of the foetus was rendered probable from the statements of the woman, and the deficiency of the heart sounds, where the thermometer afforded an exceedingly delicate test.

The thermometer introduced into the uterus, serves not only for the differential diagnosis between the life and death of the foetus, but also for the establishment of an ex-