

fracture. The lower edge of the line of fracture was found depressed the entire thickness of the skull, and the vessel appeared to be compressed by the edges of the fracture to an extent sufficient to prevent hæmorrhage. It is reasonable to suppose that the depressed edge of the fracture recovered its position to some extent after the injury, partly from its own resiliency and partly from brain pressure, so that the hæmorrhage which had apparently been free at first, was arrested by the pressure exerted on the bleeding vessel by the re-approximation of the edges of the fracture. The peculiarity of this case is, not the recovery of the child, for recovery is not so rare an occurrence, especially in children, after brain injuries with loss of brain substance; but what seems singular in the case is the fact, that with the one exception of vomiting, the child never gave any indication of having received a severe injury of any kind, from the day of the accident up to the present time. She never betrayed the slightest want of intelligence from first to last, and a few minutes after the accident, as well as throughout her confinement to the room up stairs, readily recognized the voices of her associates who were playing on the street below. It seems to me, the only reasonable explanation of the absence of brain symptoms, and one which is concurred in by Dr. S., is that the extrusion of brain substance caused by the continued action of the violence which produced the injury, while relieving to some extent the brain pressure, by carrying with it the already severed artery, also saved the child from the immediate and remote effects of extravasated blood in brain tissue. I need scarcely say, that in the absence of symptoms, and of any spicula of bone which might irritate the brain, we did not interfere with either the fracture or scalp wound, but secured perfect quiet in a moderately darkened room, a position favorable for drainage, the continuous application of cold to the head for many days, regular action of the bowels, and the use of cold water dressing to the wound, which healed kindly in a short time; and after a few days it was with difficulty that the little patient could be restrained from playing with the other children when she heard their voices on the street, and for the last two or three months she has been playing about the streets, as lively as the best of them.

CASE OF MOLAR PREGNANCY COMPLICATED WITH PUERPERAL URÆMIA.

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N. A., æt. 21, admitted to hospital Oct. 4th, said to be suffering from rheumatism. It was soon ascertained that she was pregnant about three months. A dark, offensive discharge was observed from the vagina. A bath was carefully taken by patient, after which she soon began to flow, somewhat profusely. As she denied anything like labour pains, it was thought the progress might be stopped, and accordingly (the os being only slightly dilated), perfect quiet was enjoined, and full doses of black haw, opium and cannabis indica, administered. It soon became evident, however, that this was of no avail, and a plug, of the kite-tail form was introduced, and replaced by another in 6 hours, which second remained in 8 hours, when the os was found dilated. During this time ergot was given by the mouth, but provoked vomiting after a time. The uterus was then easily emptied of a mass having a feel of placenta, but which proved to be a much hypertrophied decidua containing an imperfectly formed annion, with a number of black clots beneath it. No trace of what could be called an ovum could be found among the clots or anywhere in the mass. Several semi-organized clots were taken out of the uterus, and $\frac{1}{2}$ a drachm of ergot (F. Ext.) administered hypodermically (into the gluteus). All went well for a while, but that night the patient was unable to sleep, so that small doses of pot. brom. and tr. lupuli. were given. About 2 a.m., however, was called up, and found patient very restless and irritable, trying to get out of bed.

A catheter was used, and about 2 ounces of urine drawn off, which was found to contain about $\frac{1}{3}$ albumen, *sp. gr.* 1011. Pulse 145, and rather feeble; temperature 102 $\frac{3}{4}$. Hot fomentations were applied over the loins, and more blankets put over her, and a mixture of liq. amm. acet., spts. æth. nit. and fl. ext. jaborandi given. Hot water bottles were applied to feet. Diarrhœa had by this time set in, and was not stopped. For a while perspiration was free, and in the morning she seemed better as regards pulse and temperature, but in a state of semi-delirium, which seemed to lessen towards noon, when she became suddenly comatose, with dilated pupils, stertorous breathing,