

the operation of the emetic, sulphate of magnesia  $\text{ʒij}$ ; a warm bath at 98, acid (sulphuric aromat) gtt. xij. omni hora, in a wine-glass full of water. This treatment gave considerable relief.

20th, at 8 o'clock a. m.—Complained of slight pain in the bowels; medicine operated well—ordered calomel gr. iv. opii gr. i. At bedtime ol. ricini  $\text{ʒi}$ . 21st. Much improved; pain in the bowels removed; states that she had been afflicted with "Fluor albus" for 6 months, and that the leucorrheal discharge has ceased since she took the lead. The aromatic sulphuric acid to be continued three times a day.

It is an established fact that the preparations of lead do not pass off, or at least very sparingly, in the secretions. In this respect lead forms a striking contrast with iodide of potassium. When the latter accumulates in the blood it produces sneezing, headache, watery eyes, and a variety of other symptoms, and at the end of a few days these symptoms vanish.

The poison of lead, on the contrary, remains in the system, and its effects are consequently more lasting. "The presence of lead in the solids and fluids has been detected in a case at King's College Hospital, London, treated by Dr. Budd, where the patient had been a house-painter for some years, and died from colic and epilepsy. The metal was detected in the brain by chemical analysis, but Mr. Bowman could obtain no evidence of it by the microscope." However, the fact that acetate of lead has been lately detected in the urine, confirms the idea that it is the least poisonous of the salts of this metal. Poisoning from lead is never intentional, but only accidental. Its presence can easily be detected by rubbing it in mortar with a little spirituous solution of guaiac, and a few drops of liquid ammonia, which produces a beautiful grass green, passing to glaucous, if lead be present.

Richmond, C. W., Dec. 18, 1846.

[The above case is interesting simply from the effects induced on the Leucorrhea, and it is chiefly on this account we give it insertion.—Eds.]

#### STATISTICS OF THE UNIVERSITY LYING-IN HOSPITAL, MONTREAL.

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This institution was first opened to the public in November, 1843, under the direction of the Medical Faculty of the college, and is now entirely supported by the zealous efforts of benevolent ladies.

Three hundred and fifty-four patients have been already delivered.

Of the number there were—

Vertex presentations, - - - -	339
Funis and Head, - - - -	1
Face, - - - -	2
Face, - - toward the Pubis, -	6
Breech, - - - -	2
Feet, - - - -	5

If we exclude from the calculation the breech and feet cases only, the result will be ninety-eight presentations of the head in every hundred labours.

Ergot has been administered only to two patients, and venesection had recourse to, once before and once after delivery. Two of the mothers had convulsions after delivery; and twelve cases of puerperal fever occurred.

The labour terminated within six hours in one hundred of the cases, within twelve in two hundred and forty, and within twenty-four hours in three hundred and thirty-six. Four were forty-eight hours, and one only of longer duration.

In the three hundred and fifty four cases, the average duration of labour was eleven and a half hours.

A patient, who daily expected to be confined, entered the room where another was suffering in labour, and, without any premonitory symptoms, the liquor amnii suddenly escaped, and, with only two pains, the child was born before she could be removed to a bed.

Two of the mothers died, one from uterine inflammation, after a very severe labour, and another in a comatose state, twelve hours after an easy delivery, in consequence of falls on the head previous to her admission. The deaths being thus one in a hundred and seventy-seven.

The eldest patient was forty-five years of age, and the youngest fourteen years and seven days. Although the face of the child was towards the pubis, she had an easy labour of seven hours duration, and her infant weighed six pounds. There were three cases of twins.

One of them has already been reported in this journal by Dr. Sewell, who found the patient with symptoms of labour in her masters house, and, very much against her inclination, sent her to the hospital; where she continued to deny that she was pregnant, until she was delivered, and then the presence of a double placenta, with two cords, disclosed the secret of her having a short time previously given birth to another infant. Her former residence was immediately searched by the police, and the other twin found concealed in her trunk.

The only instrument used to assist delivery was the forceps, once in the three hundred and fifty-four cases.

One hundred and seventy-eight of the children were males, and one hundred and seventy-six females.