

patient in a strong convulsion, which the attendants informed us was the third since Mr. C. left home.

I immediately administered chloroform with the effect of arresting the convulsion and setting her to sleep. She slept soundly and naturally for more than an hour, and then sat up in bed and conversed with remarkable intelligence and cheerfulness. She informed me that she was just entering upon the eighth month of pregnancy, that she thought the child was dead and had been so for some days, and that she had felt for some time that "all was not quite right." She attributed all her present troubles to a fall from a buggy some weeks previously, since when she had not felt right. It was soon after this fall that the first attack of neuralgia came on. During the three hours that I stayed with her on Monday there was no return of the eclampsia, but the twitching of the left arm continued; otherwise she appeared quite well, the neuralgia had entirely disappeared, and she partook of some refreshment with a relish.

On examination, I found that the foetal heart was beating a little to the left of the middle line, at a point about three inches above the pubis. I could hear it only in this situation, so did not suspect the presence of twins, although the uterus was unusually distended. At this time there was no appearance of labour. Having given the nurse full directions how to use the chloroform if the convulsions returned, and having procured a small quantity of urine to test for albumen, and to examine microscopically, I left her and came home.

The urine contained neither albumen nor casts, on the contrary appeared to be quite normal.

Early on Tuesday morning a messenger came from Mr. C., with the information that Mrs. C. was much worse, (the fits were becoming gradually more and more frequent, and the chloroform had lost its effect,) and a request that I should lose no time in visiting her. At ten (a.m.) I found her to all appearance "in extremis." The convulsions were very violent and almost unintermitting, pulse nearly imperceptible, extremities cold, no signs of labour coming on. The attendants stated that she had been quite insensible since three o'clock (a.m.), and that the chloroform had no effect in arresting the fits. Notwithstanding this latter very discouraging statement, I determined to resort once more to chloroform, and the result was that in a very few minutes all reflex action had ceased, and the patient lay perfectly quiet, but in a condition very closely resembling coma.

After the lapse of ten minutes, the arm began to twitch violently, and it was evident that another fit was coming on. The chloroform was immediately resumed, and very soon the patient was quite quiet once more.