

VOMITING IN PREGNANCY A SIGN OF THE SEX OF THE CHILD.

WINFIELD, ARK.

ED. REVIEW.—It would be a source of pleasure to most prospective fathers and mothers to be able to tell, or even to know with approximate certainty, what sex their child will be. At one time the number of foetal heart-sounds to the minute was thought to be an index, but this sign has been proven to be rather unreliable.

Some years ago, my attention was called to morning sickness as a sign of the sex of the foetus, and as substantiating this I will cite the following:

A woman, carrying her first child, was so ill from "morning sickness" during the first four months of pregnancy, as to be entirely unfit for household duty. The child when born was found to be a female. The second pregnancy was similar to the first, a female child being born.

During her third pregnancy my patient was not sick in the least, and would not believe that she had conceived till she felt the movements of the child. This one proved to be a boy. During the next two pregnancies no sickness occurred, and male children were born. During her sixth pregnancy she was greatly annoyed by morning sickness, and a girl was born. I foretold the sex of the seventh, a boy, by the absence of vomiting, and the eighth, a girl, by the presence of vomiting.

In searching the literature at my command, I find Cazeaux and Tarnier, in the last edition of their great work on obstetrics, say it is a sign of some importance, and Priestley in "Reynold's System of Medicine" refers to a physician, who claimed to be able to foretell the sex of the child by the absence or presence of vomiting during pregnancy.

I would be glad to hear from other readers of the REVIEW upon this subject.

CHEVES BEVILL.

The doctor who selfishly and unwisely sits in his office, or "knocks around town," lazily, and never attends at home or abroad the convocations of his brethren, thus putting himself in a position for receiving and imparting information, exchanging views and experiences, rubbing off rough corners, and brushing out the mental cobwebs from the darker areas of his mind, made dark by the absence of the light reflected from other's works against the best interests of himself and his patients, in that he is likely to be come rusty and slow as thinker, a laggard, a sluggard, a narrow, one-ideal, dogmatic, snarling, misanthropic, dyspeptic crank.

Go where you will in any community, and you will find the men who are the busiest, the most thoughtful, the best students, the happiest, the leaders in the front rank, are the ones who are never too busy to attend their home societies regularly, and get away to a distant meeting at least once or twice a year.

THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD

A Monthly Journal of Medicine and Surgery.

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LONDON.

SUBSCRIPTION TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

All communications and Exchanges must be addressed to the Editors, Drawer 356, Post Office, Montreal.

MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER, 1888.

THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

ART. V.—*Duties of physicians in cases of interference.*

1. Medicine is a liberal profession, and those admitted into its ranks should found their expectations of practice upon the extent of their qualifications, not on intrigue or artifice.

2. A physician, in his intercourse with a patient under the care of another practitioner, should observe the strictest caution and reserve. No meddling inquiries should be made—no disingenuous hints given relative to the nature and treatment of his disorder; nor any course of conduct pursued that may directly or indirectly tend to diminish the trust reposed in the physician employed.

3. The same circumspection and reserve should be observed when, from motives of business or friendship, a physician is prompted to visit an individual who is under the direction of another practitioner. Indeed, such visits should be avoided, except under peculiar circumstances; and when they are made, no particular inquiries should be instituted relative to the nature of the disease, or the remedies employed, but the topics of conversation should be as foreign to the case as circumstances will admit.

4. A physician ought not to take charge of or prescribe for a patient who has recently been under the care of another member of the faculty in the same illness, except in cases of sudden emergency, or in consultation with the physician previously in attendance, or when the latter has relinquished