

continued ipecac. and acetate of lead, and added quinia and acid sulph. aromat.

18th. Still improving.

20th. Continues to improve, lowered foot of bed to level.

22nd. Feels quite comfortable. Discontinued application of ice, and ordered a mixture of iron, quinine and acid sulph. aromat. From this time she continued to gain rapidly, and to-day (Feb. 5.) is able to perform a considerable portion of her household duties, and her cheeks have regained their wonted rosy tint.

REMARKS.—The occurrence of hemorrhage in this case seemed to be due entirely to an atonic condition of the uterus. Query? Was atony caused by previous subinvolution, displacement, over-distension from carrying so large a child, or severe uterine contraction? In no instance does the practitioner require greater coolness and presence of mind than in such cases as these, for the life of the patient depends upon prompt and decisive action.

## TWO CASES OF MATERNAL IMPRESSIONS.\*

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CASE 1.—Mrs. B——, the mother of a fine healthy boy was during her second pregnancy much affected by the sight of a hand with two thumbs on it. It so shocked her, that she became anxious and full of dread, lest her own unborn child should be similarly deformed. Having attended at her confinement, and not knowing anything about her alarm, she surprised me after the birth of the child by asking, "Are the hands all right?" On examining, I found on one of them a supernumerary thumb, of normal size, growing from the dorsum of the metacarpo-phalangeal articulation of the natural one. In every other respect the child was perfectly formed and well developed.

CASE 2.—Mrs. H——, mother of several healthy children, was severely shocked during the pregnancy referred to in this report by a sad accident to her husband, and which afterwards proved fatal.

To make the case more intelligible, I will first

relate the accident referred to. Mr. H——, a pump maker, was engaged in a well at the depth of thirty-five feet staying a pump, when the stone walls suddenly gave way. The stones, forming a partial arch over his head, prevented his being instantly crushed. After sixteen hours of anxious, weary labor, his voice, faint and indistinct, being audible all the time, he was found still living, with his arms and legs clasped around the pump-log, a position into which he sprang, as he afterwards stated, when he felt the stones moving. When taken out, cold and numb, his feet were turned inwards as in the act of climbing. Two stones had pressed upon him, one on the head left a contusion, the other, on the lumbar region of the spine, produced a slough. He lived only five days after the accident. During this time he was very restless, but much relieved when some person leaned over him so that he could clasp his hands around them. Mrs. H——, six months advanced in pregnancy, was present at the rescue, and nursed her husband almost without intermission up to the time of his death. Three months afterwards she gave birth to a deformed infant, the abnormalities of which bore a striking resemblance to the condition and marks on the father, produced by the accident in the well. Its feet were turned inwards, with double talipes varus; on the side of the head was an ecchymosis, and in the lumbar region of the spine a wound differing from an ordinary spina bifida, in their being no abnormal fluid in the subarachnoid space, and besides the spinal processes and laminae of the part, all the structures external to the membranes of the cord were deficient. The cord of normal size was visible through the membranes. The wounds on the head and spine corresponded to those referred to on the father, more especially the latter, as a slough when removed leaves exposed the normal structures underneath. The child lived five days, the same length of time as the father lived after the accident. Another, and the most remarkable coincidence, was that the child resembled the father, in not resting, only when some one held its hands firmly grasped. The latter circumstance I could not believe until I saw unmistakable evidence of it. As I entered the room one day the child was sleeping quietly, the nurse holding its hands enclosed in her own. She mentioned to me the peculiarity, and as I expressed myself as being doubtful of the fact, she quietly and gently

\*Read before the County of Oxford Medical Association, January 31st, 1878.