

In Dr. T.'s hands the combination of calomel ointment with the powder of camphorated starch, in the treatment of itching of the hemorrhoidal region, has given results which no other treatment has ever obtained in so constant a manner.

Every practitioner who has been consulted for these affections has been obliged to direct himself to formulæ of great variety, before hitting on a successful expedient. In illustration of this, it is sufficient to relate the summary of five observations published by Dr. Ruan, in 'Hufeland's Journal.'

Of these five cases, two were treated without any success by purgatives, diuretics, opium in large doses, Goulard's extract, and solution of borate of soda, intractable to all these means, they were cured by the balsam of copaiba.

In a third case, the copaiba, which had succeeded in the two first, was inefficacious, whilst the borax, which had failed in the others, caused the itching to disappear in this case.

A fourth case resisted the divers means employed for the three first, and gave way to the administration of the subcarbonate of soda in small and repeated doses.

The fifth case resisted every treatment.—*L'Union Medicale*.—*Monthly Journal of Science*, April 1851.

MIDWIFERY.

PECULIAR FORM OF THROMBUS OCCURRING DURING LABOUR.

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There are two situations in which the formation of a thrombus or bloody tumour during natural labour is a matter of common observation, namely, on the head of the child, and at the vulva of the woman; but I think I have fully satisfied myself that there is a third variety of it to be met with in practice, invested with no little interest, and involving considerations of high practical importance, where an effusion of blood takes place in the tissue of the uterus, near the os uteri, and more especially in the anterior lip of that organ.

On the first variety, or that which forms on the head of the child, I do not propose at present to make any observations. With regard to the second, it does not appear to have been recognized, or at least was not described by any English writer,* until Dr. McBride of this city published an account of two cases of it in 1776. Nor do I recollect to have met with an instance of it in my own practice for several years, until 1849, when I met with two within six weeks, the first on the 23rd August, and the second on the 4th October.

The former was in a lady with her first child; her labour was short and natural, with but little effort or straining, nor was I aware of the occurrence of the tumour until after delivery, when I found it on the edge of the left labium, but ruptured, and its contents partially discharged. The swelling subsided within a few days, and no subsequent inconvenience was experienced from it. The lady, who was not young, recovered very favourably.

* The following passage from Veslingius, in 1647, appears to describe this accident very exactly:—"Alias jam bis observassem ab effuso intratumus vaginæ sanguine in partu difficili, pudendi labium ingenti tumore distensum fuisse, quo aperto, sanguineque atro paulatim evacuato, mulieres evasere."