

OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY.

IN CHARGE OF ADAM H. WRIGHT, K. C. McILWRAITH, FRED. FENTON AND
HELEN MACMURCHY.

Five notable papers on obstetrical subjects, comprising, indeed, a large part of the initial number, appear in the new *International Medical Magazine*, which appeared in Chicago on July 1st, under the title "Surgery, Gynecology and Obstetrics." The papers above referred to were all read before the American Gynecological Society at its annual meeting at Niagara Falls in May, 1905, and are as follows: "Appendicitis and Pregnancy," by J. Clarence Webster, Chicago; "Sudden Death during or immediately after the Termination of Pregnancy," Edward P. Davis, M.D., Philadelphia; "Pernicious Vomiting of Pregnancy," J. Whitridge Williams, M.D., Baltimore; "Clinical Types of Pregnancy Toxemia," J. Clifton Edgar, M.D., New York; "Appendicitis Complicating Pregnancy," Henry C. Coe, M.D., New York.

Dr. Davis' paper is exceedingly interesting, and in addition he gives a valuable bibliography and a tabulated history of 27 of the recorded cases. His conclusions, derived from his own experience and from a study of 193 papers on the subject, are these:—

1st. Sudden death may occur after abortion, labor or operation, from undemonstrable causes, autopsy finding no adequate reason for the accident.

2nd. Death may follow abortion, labor or operation from the rapid formation of a pulmonary embolus.

3rd. Patient may die suddenly after labor or operation at any period within a month from primary thrombosis and secondary embolism.

4th. Among the rare causes of sudden death in parturient women and operative cases must be mentioned sudden nervous reflex from vaginal manipulation, a patient dying immediately upon vaginal examination from no assignable cause.

Dr. Whitridge Williams speaks of Reflex, Neurotic and Toxemic Vomiting of Pregnancy, and has no hesitation in saying, from his own experience, in at least a certain proportion of the toxemic cases of vomiting of pregnancy, characteristic lesions may be found at autopsy, and are identical with those observed in acute yellow atrophy and icterus gravis.

Dr. J. Clifton Edgar describes, with cases, eight types of Pregnancy Toxemia.

Dr. Coe opens his paper with an expression of surprise that so little attention is bestowed on appendicitis complicating pregnancy, by recent writers on obstetrics. This is right enough—for example, in Jellett's new book, appendicitis is not even mentioned by name once. It does not appear even in the