

half found things *in statu quo*. This state of affairs continued for four days, when the pains returned, and the breech of a child was born before my arrival. I immediately removed the child, still-born, though the nurse informed me that the legs moved after their delivery. The child must have been quite seven months, as the nails were commencing to form and its weight was 4½ lbs. The placenta of the second child came away naturally, but was followed by a great deal of hemorrhage; there was no sign of a second after-birth attached to it. Traction on the smaller cord failed to detach its placenta, so I introduced my hand into the uterus and removed it piecemeal; it was completely adherent and attached to the upper zone on the right side, measuring about three inches across; it was not putrid. All the bleeding immediately ceased, and my patient made an excellent recovery, without a drawback."

THE VOMITING CENTRE.—Professor Fremas, (*Lancet*) who has been investigating the subject of vomiting, finds that in dogs and cats, section of the medulla at the level of fourth ventricle does not prevent the induction of vomiting by hypodermic injections of apomorphia. By touching different parts of the medulla with a weak solution of apomorphia, so as to induce vomiting, he was able to localize with tolerable precision the situation and extent of the vomiting centre, which he says lies in a small space before and behind the calamus, and in the deeper layers of the medulla. He believes that the absence of vomiting, which is observed in ruminants, rodents, and some other classes of animals, is due to the absence in them of a vomiting centre, or to the very rudimentary condition in which it exists. In a rabbit on which he tried in every way to induce vomiting, no signs of gastric movement of that nature could be detected.

FRACTURE OF COCCYX, WITH SUBSEQUENT SPONTANEOUS REMOVAL.—Dr. W. J. Jolly writes to the *Atlanta Med. and Surg. Jour.* thus:—"I was called to Mrs. M., November 1st, 1887, primipara, aged 21 years, who was in labor. Nothing unusual occurred until the head was pressed against the coccyx, which did not yield. I applied the forceps and delivered her without any trouble and without any laceration of perineum. Immediately after delivery she suffered intense pain in

the region of the coccyx, for which I gave an opiate and examined the bone. Found some displacement which I corrected, supposing it to be fractured. The opiate soon relieved the pain; she did not suffer any more until the 9th day, except some tenderness in the region. She had some slight pain on that day. On the 10th she passed a bone per anum and sent it to me, stating that she thought she had passed a joint of her backbone. Upon examination I found it to be the lowest segment of the coccyx. She has had no trouble since. As I have not seen a similar case on record, I send it to you for publication.

THE BINIODIDE OF MERCURY IN GONORRHOEA.—Dr. C. K. Illingworth writes to *The Br. Med. Jour.* that he finds the biniodide of mercury very serviceable as an injection in gonorrhœa when used in solution with iodide of sodium. He combines it as follows:—

R.—Sol. hydrarg. bichlor.,	. . . . .	3ij.
Sodii iodidi,	. . . . .	3ss.
Sol. morph. (B.P.)	. . . . .	3ss.
Sodæ bicarb.,	. . . . .	3jss.
Zinci sulph.,	. . . . .	gr.x.
Aquam ad,	. . . . .	3vj.
M. et solve.	Ft. inject.	

THE ACTION OF SALINE PURGATIVES.—The following are the conclusions arrived at by Lenbuscher (*Edin. Med. Jour.*), as to the action of saline purgatives:—"1. That an exaggeration of the peristaltic movement of the intestine only plays a secondary part in the action of saline purgatives. 2. In whatever manner saline purgatives may be introduced into the intestine, the intestine becomes the site of a great secretion of liquid, which is the principal cause of the purgative action. 3. It is impossible to claim for saline purgatives that they act as a barrier to re-absorption. 4. Saline purgatives introduced into the circulation in sufficient quantity produce constipation."

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.—We regret that owing to the sudden and unavoidable departure of our correspondent from New York, we have no communication from that city in this issue. We shall endeavor to make such arrangements as will ensure for February, and all subsequent numbers,