

cy. The operation was performed half through the abdomen, half through the vagina. First the patient was placed in the lithotomy position. The cervix was separated from the vagina, and Douglas's pouch opened by means of a Paquelin's cautery. The vagina was then packed with iodoform gauze. Then the patient was placed in the usual position for abdominal section, the uterus exposed and opened, and the child extracted. An elastic ligature was applied to the lowest part of the uterus, and the broad ligaments were tied above it. Then the uterus was cut away, and the vesico-uterine fold opened. The abdominal wound being closed, the patient was once more placed in the lithotomy position, and the cervix freed entirely from its connections. Dr. Zweifel objected to leaving the wound open, as he had often seen intestine prolapse and adhere to dressings. He therefore closed the corners of the wound, and inserted a T-shaped gutta-percha tube. The patient recovered, convalescence being retarded by the formation of a large bed sore after an attack of gastric catarrh, with emaciation. The child was not saved. An abstract of the case appeared in the *Centralblatt für Gynäkologie*, No. 12, 1889. Total extirpation of the cancerous uterus, at term, has been performed twice by Schroder, with fatal results, and once by Bischoff, where the left ureter was tied, and the patient died. Sir Spencer Well's case, performed at the sixth month, the mother recovering, occurred in 1881, and is well known to British surgeons.

THE REDUCTION OF HERNIA DURING COUGHING.—It is an undoubted fact that coughing will produce or bring down a hernia; it is therefore somewhat surprising to hear that coughing may be useful in the reduction of herniæ. Mr. Vandabeele, however, has frequently found that herniæ which had resisted attempts at reduction by taxis alone yielded when the patient was directed to cough during the manual efforts to compress the sac. M. Vandabeele's observations included both inguinal and femoral herniæ, and were not confined to either sex. He believes that during the act of coughing the

hernial ring dilates somewhat, and that if well-directed taxis is employed just at the right moment most cases will yield.

MUMMIFICATION OF THE UMBILICAL CORD.—In the *Liverpool Medico-Chirurgical Journal* for July, 1889, there is an account of an interesting case of the above mentioned condition by Mr. Frederick W. Lowndes, surgeon to the Liverpool police. At the end of 1885 the body of a fully developed, newly born male child was found in a cellar, with a scarf tied tightly round the neck. The lungs gave evidence that the child had respired. The point of chief importance, however, pertains to the state of the umbilical cord. "For about half an inch from the navel it was perfectly fresh; then came the usual line of demarcation; the remainder of the cord, about two inches and a half, was completely mummified, and there were no appearances of any ligature." We are quite in accord with the opinion of Mr. Lowndes that the state of the cord showed indisputably that the child had survived its birth for "at least twenty-four hours," since the change which had taken place was a vital one, and not the result of mere post-mortem dessication. We are indebted to Mr. Lowndes for putting this practically unique case on record, if only for the fact that it shows that Casper's deductions from his observations on the value of mummification of the umbilical cord as a mean of determining live birth are too general.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.—At present this distinction is held by 183 officers and men of the army, of which number 13 are medical officers, 10 belonging to the Army Medical Department, 2 to the Cape Rifles and Yeomanry, and 1 to the Indian Medical Service, namely, Surgeon Crimmin. Only 3 are serving on the active list, namely, Brigade-Surgeon Temple, Surgeon-Major Reynolds, and Surgeon Crimmin.

MILK TYPHOID IN LEEDS.—A serious outbreak of typhoid fever is reported to have occurred in Leeds, the cases being mainly at Headingley and Woodhouse, one of the best residential parts of the borough. Upwards of twenty cases are reported in