

She expected to be confined for the fifth time between the 18th and the 22nd of September, 1887. She was put upon special diet on the 1st of August. She was confined on the 20th of September. The child, a female, weighed 2,350 grammes, and was 50½ cm. long. It had all the characters of a mature child, except that it was very lean. It was fed by bottle, and it developed like a mature child, increasing in weight 250-280 grammes per week. The child is still alive and healthy.

Two other cases of more recent occurrence are also detailed. The first of these was the wife of an operative. She was delivered for the first time, in 1875, by cephalotripsy, after futile efforts with the forceps. In 1878 she was again delivered by turning and extraction. The child, which had been in a transverse position, lived only a few hours. In 1884, induction of premature labor, child surviving five weeks. Again expected confinement in first week of January, 1889. Diet very strictly adhered to from the 22nd November preceding. The child was born without obstetric interference. It presented all the signs of maturity, but in proportion to its length it was very thin and devoid of fat. It thrived surprisingly well (*erstainlich*), and in six weeks weighed 4,000 grammes, at birth 2,800.

The third case gives a somewhat similar history. The child was 52 cm. long at birth, but was extremely thin (*fast durr*).

The principal effect of the regulated diet upon the foetus was found to be absence of fat. The cranial bones yielded in a remarkable manner.

The diet was as follows:—In the morning, a small cup of coffee and about an ounce of biscuit; in the middle of the day, any kind of flesh meat, eggs and fish, with a small quantity of sauce, some green vegetables, and fat, suitably prepared, salad, cheese. In the evening the same as mid-day, with the addition of two ounces of bread, with butter according to taste of patient. Each patient was allowed half-a-pint or more of red or Moselle wine per day. Water, soup, potatoes, puddings, sugar, and beer, were absolutely forbidden.

“A CONTRIBUTION TO PROCHOWNICK'S SUBSTITUTE FOR INDUCTION OF PREMATURE LABOR.”

SWIECICKI, POSEN.—*Wiener medizinische Blätter*, May 29th, 1890.

Some reference is made to papers in which the danger of premature labor, especially to the child, is brought out. In Wyder's collected cases, the mortality of the children was 45.3 per cent. and of the mothers 5.3 per cent. So unsatisfactory are the results that some, among whom is Strauch, of Moscow, recommend Cæsarean section in preference to induction of labor. Swiecicki has tried Prochownick's plan and gives a report of four cases, which are somewhat similar in their details. The first was that of a woman of 32, a III. para. Her first labor was completed by the forceps, child still-born. The second ended with craniotomy. In the last eight weeks of her third pregnancy she submitted to Prochownick's dietary, and she gave birth to a living child. The child was very lean, with wrinkled skin, and very movable cranial bones, but it thrives very well.

In all the four cases the results were considered satisfactory, and on the basis of these results the opinion is expressed that in the medium degrees of pelvic deformity the dietetic method promises to be useful. The conservative Cæsarean section should be reserved for the more extreme degrees of pelvic deformity.  
—IV. J. Sinclair in *Med. Chronicle*.

A NEW AND RAPID TEST OF SUGAR.—At a meeting of the Austrian Surgical Society last week, Professor Nothnagel showed a handy test of sugar, which had been forwarded to him by Dr. Becker, of Cairo. It is simply a visiting card saturated with a solution of potash, over part of which is drawn a covering of the sulphate of copper, and the urine applied. The card is then laid on the globe of a lamp, when the saccharine urine will color the card brown, and this color will be the deeper the greater the amount of sugar.—*British and Colonial Druggist*.

VERATRUM VIRIDE IN PUERPERAL CONVULSIONS.—The President, Dr. Parker, at the recent meeting of the Academy of Medicine, Richmond, Va., reported having used in a case of puerperal convulsions, occurring two or three weeks before the expected time of labor (besides the usual plan of venesection and chloroform), tincture of veratrum viride, administering