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Original Communications.

Case of Intussusception, involving the whole of the large intestine, occurring in an infant. By E. D. WORTHINGTON, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Early on the morning of Monday, the 30th June last, I was called out of bed by a gentleman who stated that his infant, aged nearly four months, had been rather suddenly seized with diarrhoea the evening before, and that the recent discharges were bloody. He wished me to prescribe something, and see the child as soon as convenient. I gave him some Tannin and Dover's powder, and saw the child about eight o'clock.

It appears that on Sunday evening the mother went to church with her husband, leaving the child—a remarkably healthy one—in charge of its aunt and grandmother. Soon afterwards, the aunt, who had the child in her arms, wishing to attend to some household duties, gently placed the infant in its grandmother's lap. On the instant the child gave a sharp scream, and the grandmother declares that she heard "a peculiar sound in the bowels, as if something had given way." The child continued to scream until its mother returned from church. Looking upon the case as one of colic, the mother gave a dose of castor oil, a warm bath, applied turpentine, and used other remedies peculiar to the occasion. One or two fecal discharges followed, and then, towards morning, the discharges consisted only of small quantities—a few drops—

of unmixed fresh blood. The child had intervals of rest during the night, vomited twice, but it was not considered that there was anything alarming about the symptoms until the blood made its appearance. There had been a slight tendency to constipation for a few days.

When I saw the little patient its extremities were cold, surface pale, pulse very small and intermitting, features "pinched," and it had a look of sudden shock.

No tenderness or distension of abdomen. At the moment the weight of evidence was, in my opinion, rather in favor of some visceral injury, or internal hemorrhage, rather than intestinal obstruction. I have nothing to add either as regards the progress of the case or the treatment, further than that the child died on Tuesday at 6.30 p.m., about forty-eight hours after the accession of pain. To the last the discharges consisted of small quantities of unmixed fresh blood, but there was no tenderness or distension of the abdomen, nor after the first evening did vomiting occur more than two or three times, and then of a very trifling character. On Wednesday I was kindly permitted, with Dr. Austin and my son, Mr. Norry Worthington, to make an examination of the body. On opening the abdomen we found the stomach empty, the small intestines somewhat distended with fluid, but without the slightest trace of inflammatory action. To our surprise the whole of the large intestine had disappeared, and groping about to solve the mystery we noticed in the median line, just dipping into the pelvis, the upper portion of a mass of