

peritrophy of the mucous membrane has not been so complete. Uterine tumors, by altering the shape of the uterus, predispose to placenta prævia. It should be a rule of practice to examine the uterus a month or six weeks after placenta prævia, in order to find the cause of the condition.

Dr. Powell had seen three cases successfully treated by means of the vaginal tampon.

Dr. Cameron had seen but one case, and in it Barnes' method followed by version had been used. Forceps were needed to deliver the after-coming head. The placenta was adherent and had to be stripped off piecemeal. Post-partum hemorrhage followed and was successfully dealt with. Carbolic acid injections were ordered, but the nurse injected the fluid into the rectum and carbolic acid poisoning followed. The solution of bichloride proposed was too strong, for the vaginal mucosa may be irritated by even 1 in 5000. Creolin or carbolic acid are better.

Dr. Machell thought that too much stress could not be laid on the fact that if the child was viable, and there was any hemorrhage, interference should be immediate.

Pathology.

THE DISSEMINATION OF TUBERCULOSIS BY PASSENGER TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS (Prausnitz, *Central. für Bakt. u. Parasit.*, Sept. 18, 1891).—Incited thereto by Cornet's investigations, Prausnitz investigated the dust taken from passenger trains for the bacillus tuberculosis. He chose for his experiments through-going cars, which were most used by consumptives. After the arrival of the train from Berlin in Munich, he swept up the dust collected underneath the compartment carpets of the selected cars and mixed it up in a sterilized porcelain capsule, mixed a part of it in sterilized distilled water, and injected it into the peritoneal cavity of guinea-pigs. In this way twenty guinea-pigs were injected with the dust taken from ten compartments of four cars on five days. Of these twenty guinea-pigs, five developed tuberculosis. The dust used in these five cases all came from two cars. The experiments showed that the dust of railway cars, in which one would presume that large numbers of tubercle bacilli might be present, for the most part contains none of these germs, and even in the cars which are longest on the road the dust contains but few. "The ordinary method of cleaning out railway passenger cars suffices to keep them so free of tubercle germs that danger to the travelling public in this respect seems to be excluded."—J.C.

SUPPURATION COMPLICATING TYPHOID FEVER (*Centralb. für Bakt. u. Parasit.*, Nov. 7, 1891).

—Dèstrée made bacteriological investigations in the case of a number of patients ill of enteric fever, in the clinic of Prof. Stienou, and with the following results: In four cases of abscess in different locations (viz., right and left mammae, left axilla, region of sacrum), only the staphylococcus pyogenus aureus could be found. In a fifth case, in which there appeared a left-sided acute purulent ostitis in the convalescence stage, Eberth's bacillus alone was discovered. The investigator concludes that whilst the typhoid germ may excite suppuration, in most cases the ordinary *pyogenic* forms are the cause.—J.C.

Correspondence.

Editor of THE CANADIAN PRACTITIONER :

SIR,—With your permission I desire to point out an apparent defect in the Ontario Medical Act which should be remedied before the next elections in 1895, and in doing so I shall refer to the recent Burlington and Home protested election, which was decided at the last session of the Medical Council, and to which you referred in your issue of July 1st. It will be remembered that I was elected, and that my opponent, Dr. Miller, entered a protest, with the result that the Committee on Credentials gave him the seat by a majority of two. In doing so they allowed Dr. Cattermole's vote for my opponent and disallowed the votes of Drs. O'Reilly, Ranney, Robinson, and Lafferty (the returning officer), who had voted for me. Firm in the belief that I did not receive justice at the hands of the committee, I submitted all the facts in connection with the protest to Mr. A. B. Aylesworth, Q.C., Toronto, with the view of appealing from the decision of the council.

Re the vote of Dr. Lafferty, Mr. Aylesworth says: "In the absence of any legislation depriving the returning officer of his vote at an election for member to the council, I can see no reason why such returning officer (if otherwise qualified to vote at any such election) could not validly cast his ballot with precisely the same right as any other elector. I think, therefore, that, unless there is some legislation in the council by-laws declaring that the returning officer is