

dently consists in the extravasation of blood in the head of the new-born child. It is said that the extravasated blood may have its seat in the subaponeurotic texture, in the scalp,—subpericranial, under the pericranium, or rather, we believe, in the vessels of the diploë,—or submeningeal, the *apoplexi des enfants nouveau nés*, in the membranes of the brain, or in the brain itself.

The first variety of these accidents must be familiar to every accoucheur; for but very few children are born, after severe labours, without some degree of extravasation of the blood into the scalp. In some instances the blood may be simply effused into the areolar tissue, leaving a dark ecchymosed spot of more or less extent upon the head; and this may be slowly absorbed without producing any inconvenience to the infant. In other instances a tumour may occur, similar in character to those which form upon the head after a severe blow. The long-continued pressure and severe contusion often produced by the labour pains, may have ruptured a blood vessel, and have broken up the areolar tissue; blood is poured out in considerable quantity; it distends the structures, and forms a large collection, not only in the areolar tissue, but also between the scalp and occipito-frontalis tendon. In all probability, the areolar tissue is separated up by the violence of the injury, and the blood is poured out into it; while the blood, arrested in the areolar tissue of the circumference, forms it into a circumscribed tumour. The tenseness of this tumour will in all probability depend upon the rapidity with which the blood is driven into it, and which may be influenced by the size of the vessel. At first there is a feeling of elasticity rather than of fluctuation; soon, however, the blood separates into clot and serum, and then fluctuation becomes much more distinct. In the circumference of the tumour we find a hard rising ring, composed of coagulated blood, while the centre is soft, yielding, and fluctuating, consisting chiefly of serum. Should we now examine the tumour for the first time, the feeling may suggest the idea of a fracture, with depression of the bone. You may dispel this deception by pressing firmly on the soft and yielding centre; the bone