

exceedingly that the particulars of this case have not been as accurately furnished as I could have wished ; for, as I unfortunately mislaid the notes I had taken of it, at the time of its occurrence, I have been under the necessity of writing it "memoriter." I am conscious of contributing a mere outline of an interesting subject where minute detail is so necessary, and so universally looked for. Such as it is, however, with all its defects, I offer it for the consideration of my medical brethren in this Province, and if it only serve to put them on their guard against the possible occurrence of so formidable a malady in their practice, I shall consider myself amply rewarded for any trouble I may have taken in detailing it.

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ART. XXVI.—*On the effects of Ergot of Rye in certain forms of Menorrhagia.* By A. O. KELLOGG, M.D., Mariposa, C.W.

The influence of Ergot on the impregnated uterus, and its power of exciting contraction of this organ, so as to effect the expulsion of its contents, at any period of utero gestation has been clearly established by repeated observation. Unfortunately, in many instances, this is too well known, for *foetuses conceived in undue time*, have not only been brought into the world before their time, but sent out of it as suddenly. But its use or abuse in these cases do not come within the scope of this article—its power for good or evil is sufficiently known and appreciated by every intelligent and experienced practitioner. It is to its influence on the *unimpregnated* uterus in certain forms of menorrhagia that I propose to direct the attention of my readers. During the last eight or ten years I have made trial of nearly all the remedies recommended in the various forms menorrhagia, (the *cannabis indicus*—I have never been able to procure, and can therefore say nothing of it from my own experience ; but as it is spoken of as an admirable remedy by high authorities, it deserves a fair trial) ; and though I cannot say with Dr. Churchill, that the Ergot is "the only remedy which seems to have the power of controlling the discharge during the menstrual period ;" I can safely say that it is the only scientific *oral* remedy we possess. Astringents, Apium, acetate of lead, decoction of logwood, &c. &c., will *derange* menstrual secretion, as they will all the other secretions of the body ; but these must be restored again before the patient can make any progress towards recovery, and in nine cases out of ten, this returns with the rest, and leaves the patient no better than when we began their administration. Not so, however, with the Ergot, it seems to have a specific influence even upon the unimpregnated uterus, and as far as my observations extend, is perfectly safe in the particular forms of the disease I shall attempt to point out, and free from all the objections which can be urged against the others. The remedy