

firmly around it, that it was with difficulty two fingers could be introduced into the opening through which the funis passed. But during anæsthesia from the action of chloroform, the author succeeded without much exertion in passing the fingers forced into a cone, half way through the constricted portion; the woman, however, recovered her consciousness too soon, and at the same time Dr. Lespinasse felt the pressure on his fingers increasing, so that their free motion became impossible. He now caused the chloroform to be again inhaled, and felt the stricture diminish, and the free motion of his fingers return *pari passu* with the increase of the anæsthesia, he was now enabled to reach and remove the placenta.—*Nederlandsch Lancet—Med. T. & Gaz.*

*Phosphate of Lime in Spinal Curvature.* By M. PIORRY.

M. Piorry states that he has long been in the habit of administering phosphate of lime with advantage to rickety patients suffering from curvature of the spinal column. He gives it in the form of very fine filings of fresh bones. About one ounce is given daily, either in milk, or better still, in rice milk, which effectually disguises all disagreeable taste. He does not attribute all the improvement observed to this, as a highly nutritious diet is simultaneously employed: but certain it is, that in several patients in whom the spinal column had continued to deviate more and more every year, and who were subjected during several months to good regimen, free exposure to light, a dry and warm temperature, and especially employing the phosphate, the progress of the affection has become completely arrested. And the numerous cases in which the treatment has proved of benefit in Potts' disease, suggest that it may be of great utility in the rickets of childhood, and to osteomalacia of adults. M. Piorry also believes it may prove useful in women threatened with the softening of the bones during pregnancy, combining it then with iron. Likewise children, when nutrition is defective and the limbs are distorted, may benefit by it, while in certain tuberculous subjects it may favor the process of calcification.—*Gaz. des Hop.*

*Hemorrhage as a sign of Cancer in the Uterus.*—Dr. West remarked, in his out-patients' room, at St. Bartholomew's, the other day, on the almost constant occurrence of hemorrhage, as a symptom of commencing cancer in the os uteri. He believed, he said, that it was quite as constant and valuable a sign, in relation to that disease, as hæmoptysis is in respect to tubercle in the lungs. Of course, inasmuch as the uterus is in health subject to sanguineous discharges, there is need of care in determining that the sign be really one of disease; that, for instance, it occurs with an irregularity, and a profuseness greater than disturbed catamenial function could account for. The symptom has its peculiar value when the subject of the affection had previously ceased to menstruate. Dr. West stated, that he had long recognized the importance of the symptom, but that on recently counting up his cases of uterine cancer, he had been astonished to find how almost invariably it had been the earliest sign of the existence of the disease.—*Ibid.*