

Our readers must not imagine that these formidable cases are by any means frequent, they are, on the contrary, extremely rare, and may not be met with for years, even by physicians in extensive mid-wifery practice.

The treatment of vomiting, as laid down in most works, is exceedingly conflicting, and must confuse the student of medicine, as there is no order in the arrangement; this, that, and the other remedy it is stated has been employed by this, that, and the other authority with success; and so on to the end of the chapter. There is no classification of the cases, with the view of pointing out what particular remedies are apt to be beneficial in certain particular cases; the reader is left to select at pleasure from the hotchpotch what drug he most fancies. Now, when a practitioner is consulted in a case of emesis during pregnancy, his first duty, we conceive, is, to ascertain if there be present any existing lesion, any disorder of function, which might, in conjunction with the influence of a gravid uterus, or even independent of such condition, produce vomiting. Otherwise, he cannot but treat his patient empirically; for, it is quite evident that the presence of an ulcerated cervix uteri, of a torpid state of the bowels, or of an inflamed mucous membrane of the stomach, will modify the treatment materially.

Where vomiting is slight, or where it evidently depends upon the sympathy which we have already spoken of as existing between the two organs, the treatment indicated consists in a carefully regulated diet, and the judicious administration of some of the sedatives and anti-emetics. Should there be any acidity of the secretions, an alkali ought to be combined with them. When it is accompanied by a torpid condition of the bowels, purgatives will be the class of remedies from which the greatest success may be expected. If there be an ulcerated neck of the womb, or an inflamed stomach, treatment directed for the relief and cure of these conditions, will, in all probability, be followed by the happiest results as regards the cure of the emesis. There is one form of treatment which has been said to be followed by real success, but of which we cannot speak except in terms of condemnation, viz: the administration of alcoholic liquors to such an extent as to produce intoxication. M. Rayer says he has used them with great advantage, and M. Moreau and Prof. Meigs are warm advocates for the use of champagne. The latter gentleman, in addressing his class, uses the following strong language:—"I, however, dare very confidently to advise you in all cases of obstinate vomiting, connected with pregnancy, to allow your patients to drink champagne *ad libitum*; since, in so great a multitude of examples of the kind, I have found it to procure a perfect relief." It would be interesting to know how many of the learned Professor's lady