

As a matter of curiosity I now record the following circumstance which is certainly curious, if true, and there does not seem to exist any good or sufficient ground for doubting the woman's veracity, as she could have gained or secured nothing by the falsehood whatever, if one. This patient, a respectable looking married woman, 40 years of age, and the mother of four previous children, declared that she had not perceived any catamenial flow whatever, since the birth of her fourth child, then six years of age. I think this may be set down as another instance of the vagaries, sometimes exhibited by Dame Nature in the performance of this function. Equally singular anomalies are on record.

The forceps were employed in nineteen instances, the short forceps seventeen times, and the long forceps twice. One case in which the latter was used has been already alluded to, and the other was one in which contraction of the antero-posterior diameter of the brim existed, and the attempt to deliver having been ineffectually made by this instrument, it was afterwards effected by version. The chief features of this case will be detailed afterwards. In the seventeen short forceps cases, the child was extracted dead in two instances, the fetuses having exhibited the ordinary signs of death having taken place some days previously. In one of these cases the child was not only dead, but both it and the placenta were very considerably decomposed. In the other two cases, the infants were born "still." To both the usual means of resuscitation were applied, but only in one case with success. In the remaining thirteen cases the infants were living when born. In only one case was the issue unfavourable to the mother. I will give an abstract of this case also shortly.

Podalic version was performed six times. In five of these cases the presentations were some portions of the infant's lateral planes. In the sixth case, it was performed to convert a vertex into a footling case, and effect the delivery through a contracted brim, which did not appear possible in any manner, except by means of craniotomy. I have briefly alluded to this case in the last paragraph. In one instance of arm presentation, the late Dr. McCulloch succeeded, by means of *external manipulation*, (a practice again lately urged for adoption more generally,) in bringing the head to the brim of the pelvis, thus avoiding the hazards of this operation.

No cases have as yet occurred in the Hospital, requiring the performance of any of the other obstetrical operations, a matter of some congratulation.

A word lastly as to the general employment of chloroform. During the attendance of the late Dr. McCulloch, as well as since I have had charge of the Hospital, chloroform has been but sparingly used; its general use is prohibited in all ordinary labours; but it is employed whenever anything untoward occurs which demands an artificial assistance. It has accordingly been employed in all cases of version, and in forceps cases, after the blades of the instrument have been introduced and locked. Such are the cases to which its employment has been as yet restricted, because no others have as yet occurred to require it.

I will conclude these statistics, by giving in as short detail as possible, the particulars of some of the principal and most important cases which have occurred in the Hospital since it was opened; and to render these observations as complete as possible, I will place under contribution Dr. McCulloch's commu-