

of albumen when treated with heat and nitric acid. There was much general oedema, and we were informed that previous to her first fit she complained of severe frontal headache and dimness of vision. One-half grain of morphia was given hypodermically at once, a large dose of Epsom salts was also administered, and artificial heat was applied about her body until she sweat profusely. Under treatment she improved; no more convulsive seizures occurred at that time, all other signs of nervous derangement subsided, and we were in hopes she would progress favorably to her full term. The albumen, however, did not disappear from her urine, nor did oedema entirely leave her extremities. Unfortunately, about ten days afterwards, without any nervous premonitions, she was suddenly seized with a violent convulsion. Before I was enabled to reach her she had several more; fit after fit followed one another with awful violence. Shortly after my arrival, and just as I had commenced to administer chloroform, another severe paroxysm distorted her, during which the foetus was expelled spontaneously. She was kept under the influence of the anæsthetic for a short time; no more convulsions attacked her, but she remained in a condition of semi-coma, which gradually became more profound until death closed the scene some hours after.

CASE VI.—A primipara aged 20. I found this patient, who was nearly nine months pregnant, lying upon a sofa, restless, sightless, unable to give any information concerning herself, and with slight oedema of her legs. I was informed that with the exception of an occasional headache, she had made no complaints regarding her health until the morning I was called, when she awoke with a headache. An examination of some of her urine passed that morning showed a small quantity of albumen. While carrying her to bed shortly after, she had a convulsion. Pilocarpine was injected subcutaneously and chloral per rectum at once; a few drops of croton oil were given later. Six hours after the first convulsion she had a second slighter one, and again in two hours a more severe one, remaining unconscious between the fits. After the third convulsion, the cervix showing no signs of dilating, an aseptic gum elastic catheter was passed carefully