

secale cornutum in infusion which produced an effect, so that at 11 o'clock P. M. I succeeded in detecting a presenting part, which must have been the side of the head; at that time I could not say decidedly that it was owing to a feeling of fluctuation. However at a few minutes to 12 o'clock P. M. I succeeded in distinctly feeling the ear. After considering for a short time I came to the conclusion that delivery could not be effected in that position even by the forceps, owing to the head being too far above the brim of the pelvis, and also to an evident disproportion which I discovered on further examination. I accordingly concluded on turning which I succeeded in effecting after some time and considerable difficulty, by first seizing the left foot, the right one being forced into the vagina by the uterine contractions. But after having delivered the body I found it impossible after long-continued and cautious manipulations in the usual manner, to deliver the head. After being satisfied that the child was dead, I introduced the blades of a pair of scissors immediately behind the ear and also above the occipital protuberance, from which openings an immense quantity of fluid escaped; then by the introduction of my fingers into the openings thus made, and by traction and pressure on the head, the bones collapsed and I succeeded in effecting a delivery at half-past 1 A. M., on the 18th inst. The patient during the operation sustained her strength much better than could be expected in such a long and tedious trial, and no more flowing than in a natural case followed. After the perforation, during my efforts at delivery, I think nearly a quart of fluid escaped; and on examination after delivery I am satisfied at least one quart still remained in the calvarium. The head was of an enormous size and must at least have contained nearly a gallon of fluid. The fœtus was of the female sex of rather a large size, but otherwise the head was well proportioned. I may here mention, that on enquiry afterwards, I found that the woman had complained for three or four months previously of something being *wrong* more than usual, as she expressed herself, but for which she did not consult any medical man. I may also mention that she lost a child about two years ago from Hydrocephalus. Slight inflammatory action of the uterus set in on the fourth day accompanied with general irritation of the system, which readily gave way to the usual treatment adopted in such cases; and, at the time I write, to use her own words she is quite well.

#### REMARKS.

I am aware that many might take exception to the course I pursued in the above case, in reference to affecting delivery; that is, it may be urged that, I ought to have had immediate recourse to craniotomy and not to have turned at all, as by so doing I added the double risk of danger