

away the foetus, cord, placenta and membranes all together. The foetus was $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, flattened antero-posteriorly, well preserved, and of a leathery consistence. The cord was 12 inches long, almost straight (only two twists in its entire length), tough, leathery, and requiring considerable force to break or tear it. The placenta was brownish, tough, leathery, and odorless; the membranes were shrunken to mere threads, no liquor amnii being present. On the maternal surface of the placenta there was no appearance of recent detachment from the uterine wall, nor was there any sign of lateral attachment to the other placenta. It seemed as though the foetus and placenta had remained unattached in the uterine cavity for some time.

There was no specific history; the patient was somewhat anæmic, but otherwise in good health. Most likely this was a case of the survival of the fittest, the stronger and more favorably situated twin crowded out the weaker and pushed it to the wall. The interesting point in the case is the spontaneous separation of the placenta from the uterine wall, and the retention of foetus and placenta *free* in the uterine cavity while another foetus was developing there. When was the placenta separated? How long afterward did labor set in? Was abortion brought on by the irritation of the dead foetus and placenta *in utero*? Unfortunately I was not permitted to take away the specimen for examination, and these interesting questions cannot be definitely answered.