

I having become tired at last of imperfect and transient results, I had recourse to the introduction of a small metallic pessary into the uterine cavity. In the case of the lady of whom I now speak, the introduction of this instrument was followed by the speedy relief of all her more urgent symptoms, and particularly of her monthly fit of asthma, and after she had worn it for some weeks, she was equally astonished and delighted to find, at the recurrence of her next period, a free menstrual discharge, instead of the dreaded apnoea with which she had been so long afflicted. She continued to wear it for ten or twelve months, until her health became so far restored that she was able to go to a ball,—a kind of amusement in which she had never before been qualified to indulge. When the discharge appeared to have become fairly established, the instrument was at last removed; and for some months the patient continued to menstruate regularly and to enjoy good general health. On the recurrence of cold weather, however, the uterus again failed to perform its function, and instead of having the proper menstrual discharge, she was attacked with one of her old fits of asthma. At her own suggestion and urgent solicitation I again introduced the galvanic pessary; and she wore it for about three years altogether, without ever experiencing from it any kind of inconvenience. The uterus during that time performed its functions painlessly and regularly; the secondary symptoms were all kept in abeyance, and it was only at length finally removed, when the uterus was found to be equal to the performance of its functions without the presence of any irritant in its interior. The same good effects, which were here produced, I have seen resulting from the use of the intra-uterine bougie or pessary in various similar cases.

PLACENTA PRÆVIA; TREATMENT BY THE CAOUTCHOUC WATER PESSARY.

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Mrs. P., aged twenty, at seven and a half months of her pregnancy, began to have hemorrhage, but without labour pains or dilatation of the os. This ceased partly under the use of rest, cold water enemata, opium, and acetate of lead. At the end of two weeks, it recurred with greater violence and some pain. Dilatation was sufficient to allow the finger to enter, and the placenta was ascertained to be in front. To check the alarming discharge a caoutchouc bag was introduced, and filled full of cold water, which at once arrested the flow. In half an hour it again commenced moderately; the water, now quite warm, was allowed to escape, and the bag refilled. By the continuance of this process through the day and night, the patient was kept safe. When the contents were changed, an examination could be made without removing the instrument. After twenty-four hours, as the os was becoming well dilated, and the pains more regular, turning was thought of, but finally rejected, and the former plan continued. Finally the head pressed down on the placenta, thus perfectly controlling the hemorrhage, and the child was soon born in good condition, about thirty hours after the commencement of the treatment. The placenta was found loose in the vagina.—*Am. Med. Times*, (March 9, 1861.)

QUININE AS A PARTURIFACIENT.

The *Cincinnati Lancet and Observer* for July, contains the proceedings of the Union Medical Society, at Knightstown, Ind. Dr. Cochran reported an obstetrical case, in which the patient was exhausted, and the pains had ceased for some time. He gave ten grains of quinine at one dose, which was speedily followed by strong pains, and the birth of the child. It should be observed that the parturient properties of quinine have several times been under discussion previously before this society. We abstract an opinion or two of other members elicited in the discussion. Dr. Canada said, "It could