

thirty minutes. After the birth of the child the uterus contracts, the sinuses close, and the blood clots.

Pains return, the placenta gradually becomes detached from the wall of the uterus, and passes through the vagina, thus further aiding asepsis. In multipara, pains, named the "after-pains," will return after a pause. These occur with the retraction of the uterus, this retraction compressing the vessels, and protecting also against sepsis.

Very wide differences are found between the duration of labour in different women, all depending upon the unison of the passages, passenger, and powers.