

vive the mother's death. During the Commune of Paris the Fédérés fired several shots in the direction of the Maternité. A superintendent going round found a woman nearly at term dead in her bed. A ball had fractured the base of the skull, entering the brain. Tarnier, who was in the hospital, went up to the ward and prepared to perform the Cæsarian section, but the Fédérés, seeing the lights in the ward, fired into it, so that to avoid giving them a target the lights were put out, and the corpse was taken down to an amphitheatre sheltered from the balls. Here the operation was carried out, and Tarnier extracted a living child, which, unfortunately, sank some days later. What time elapsed between the mother's death and the operation? Perhaps three-quarters of an hour, perhaps an hour, or more. At any rate, it is certain that at least twenty minutes passed from the moment when the superintendent found the woman dead and that the child was extracted.

*Forcible Tearing-out of the Uterus and Complete Destruction of the Recto-vaginal Septum.*—The following case is of rare interest medico-legally, and as an illustration of how tolerant at times the female pelvic organs are to the most violent injury. A woman of 40 had been drinking with two male companions, who afterwards had intercourse with her consent. She felt great pain in the pelvis and became unconscious. It was fourteen hours later before she was seen by a medical man and the following conditions noted: She looked stupid, her clothes covered with mud and blood, and in some respects looked like a woman who had been recently delivered; the pulse feeble and compressible, but not alarmingly bad; sensorium clear, no fever, and no pain except a burning sensation in the lower part of the abdomen. On examination, a fleshy mass covered with mud and blood, at first sight suggesting an expelled placenta, protruded from the vagina. This, when cleansed, was discovered to be the uterus torn from its attachments, lying outside the vaginal entrance, so that the os looked to the anterior vaginal wall and the fundus to the ground. The whole recto-vaginal septum was torn through and the uterus retained only by the remaining part of the anterior vaginal wall and the left ligaments. At the lateral angles