

carefully dilated with the gloved fingers to full dilatation and forceps carefully applied, using axis traction if possible. If the child is dead, and it very frequently is in hospital practice, do not hesitate to do a craniotomy if the head is large or the outlet small.

In case the cervix is rigid and small, use a good type of hydrostatic bags. In my opinion they are by far the safest and surest means of dilating the cervix without trauma or shock, and they imitate Nature's bag of waters. The cervix can be opened by a Goodell dilator enough to admit one finger, and then put in number one Voorhees' bag and dilate. As soon as this comes through, replace by number two. I sometimes use traction of two or three pounds to hasten the dilatation. Frequently, when number two has come through, the cervix can be further dilated manually. Don't be in too great a hurry. Avoid trauma and shock. If more than a couple of hours have elapsed since the first convulsion, the matter of taking a few hours extra to gradually dilate and carefully deliver will not only do no harm, but be productive of good. (Confirmed by Bumm's statistics.)

(6) Eliminations. (A) By the Intestinal Tract.—Give several enemas. When the bowel is unloaded, give a large enema of magnesium sulphate, two ounces dissolved in a small quantity of water. An enema I have given frequently is called a one-two-three—one part glycerine, two parts magnesium sulphate, and three parts water. This is usually effectual. Having cleared the bowel, start giving tap water, about 110 Fah. Saline is not necessary. If possible wash out the stomach and put down two ounces of magnesium sulphate. This is by far the best purgative, as it gets rid of a large volume of fluid, and any of the magnesium absorbed helps to calm the nervous system without the dangers attending the intravenous injection of magnesium sulphate, which has met with some success in controlling the convulsions in eclampsia as in tetanus. There is some danger, however, of respiratory failure in this latter procedure. Croton oil should not be given to a weakened patient, as it is very depressing and may turn the tide against her.

(B) By the Kidneys and Skin.—Hot packs and stupes are of the greatest service in overcoming the spasm of the superficial bloodvessels and thus lowering blood pressure. They calm the nervous system and help in an indirect way to induce diuresis by relieving the spasm of the renal vessels. Do not be misled as to the value of hot packs. Directly