

Again, in 1848, Drs. Douglas and Sewell performed double simultaneous amputation at the Marine and Emigrant Hospital.

In the first mentioned two cases, neither opium, ether, or any other anæsthetic agent was used, and the patients did not seem to suffer more than in cases of single amputation.

My own conviction is, that recovery is more rapid under the simultaneous double operation than under the double interrupted amputation. It is obvious that by the removal of both limbs at once, the nervous irritation that the unamputated limb occasions is done away with, and the mental disquietude that the patient always suffers in anticipation of the second operation is avoided, besides saving the time that is usually necessary for the patient to recover his strength and tone after the first nervous shock. But more than this, the saving of the vital fluid tends materially to the rapid recovery, as well as the abridgement of the duration of suffering. The quantity of blood lost in the double simultaneous operation is little, if any greater, than in each single amputation of the same member; and, in this view, I am supported by the opinions of all the gentlemen who have operated, or assisted at these operations.

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ART. III.—*Hydrocephalic Fœtus*—Turning and Craniotomy—Recovery of the Patient. By JAMES McMAHON, Physician and Surgeon, Dundas, County of Wentworth, C. W.

I was summoned at 4 o'clock P.M., on the 17th April, 1855, to attend Mrs. J. D., aged 26, then in labour with her third child; and on examination found the os uteri dilated to about the size of a crown piece, the membranes protruding but of rather a conical form, pains slow but regular; at making another examination at 7 o'clock P. M., I found the os uteri well dilated and the membranes protruding into the vagina but of the same shape [previous to this, 7 P. M., I did not wish for fear of rupturing the membranes to persist in ascertaining the presentation], but, during the examination at this time, to detect what part was really presenting, the membranes gave way contrary to both my wishes and expectations; an immense quantity of liquor amnii came away at one rush, I think fully as much as three pints. After the membranes were ruptured I was both surprised and disappointed, and not a little perplexed, at being unable by the usual mode of determining or finding out what the presentation was. From this time 7 P. M., until 10 P. M. I left everything to nature; during which time the pains were slow, irregular, of short duration, and of no avail. I then gave two scruples of