

purpose of measuring the depth of the organ, and it passed in easily till the handle blocked up the os. The diagnosis of chronic metritis was "reluctantly made," none of the three physicians "being very clear about the case." Pregnancy, in their opinion, was excluded, both by the treatment and the previous history. Dr. W. afterwards informed Dr. Lang that the case being left largely to Nature and no more active treatment of the uterus being allowed, the patient was delivered of a healthy child late in September. Dr. Lang deserves credit for this candid record of an error in diagnosis which is more frequent than medical literature might lead us to believe. The fact that the sound often passes for its entire length into the uterus is well known to every physician and surgeon accustomed to the care of women subject to disease of the genito-urinary tract. In such cases the patient often experiences no pain, even when the sound is passing into the uterine cavity. Such a case contrasts strongly with the well-known painful phenomena observed in cases of dysmenorrhœa with ill-developed uterus. This passage of the entire sound implies either great enlargement of the uterus due to fibroid disease, pregnancy, perforation of the uterine wall by the sound, or passage of the sound along a dilated tube. The first condition can, under the circumstances, be diagnosed with comparative ease. The second relates to cases like that recorded by Dr. Lang. It is well known that perforation of membranes, or the passage of instruments between the uterine wall and the fetal appendages, may fail to cause abortion; this fact must ever be borne in mind in cases where the sound passes far. The perforation of the wall of the uterus has occurred, and does not seem to be so deadly an accident as might be expected; indeed, some authorities speak of it as quite trivial. The same has been said of catheterisation of the Fallopian tube by the sound, and several British and German obstetricians maintain that under "certain" conditions (on the precise nature of which they appear very uncertain) the tube is quite sufficiently patulous to admit the passage of an ordinary sound.

LIBRARY TABLE.

University of the City of New York, Session 1890-91.

Varicocele by Thos. W. Kay, Scranton, Pa., Ex-Surgeon Beyrout Hospital.

Song "My Own Canadian Home" words by E. G. Nelson, composed by Morley McLaughlin.

Annual of the Universal Medical Sciences edited by Charles E. Sajous, M.D., illustrated with chromo lithographs, engravings, and maps. F. A. Davis, publisher. We welcome with great satisfaction the 1890 issue of this most admirable work. The Editor, in his modesty, apologizes, that in consequence of the illness of the staff from Influenza the publication was delayed. But, with five such volumes in the hands of subscribers, apology of any kind becomes superfluous. To review the work would be to take the whole range of Medical and Surgical progress throughout the world, a task, which we do not propose to undertake. It is sufficient to say that each year's issue of the Universal Medical Sciences shows some improvement on the previous ones, which, at the time, were regarded as perfect. The work is a compilation of all that is progressive in the practical working of our profession, and evidences, ability, labor and devotedness of such high order as to confer great honor on the Editor and his staff, and in which, engraver and printer must come in for a due share. No practitioner can afford to be without it.

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