

I do not trust it to the patient. I avoid, if I can, causing any degree of insensibility, If I can render the process endurable, I consider I have gone quite far enough. Administered to this extent, I have not found it interrupt labour so as to require artificial delivery, and cannot in any case in which I have been obliged to resort to instruments lay the necessity at its door; on the contrary, I am sure some cases would ultimately have become instrumental from exhaustion if the pain of the first stage had not been assuaged by its use. When using an instrument I never give chloroform if my patient is courageous. By explaining to the patient her exact condition, and the step I am obliged to adopt, I find in nine cases out of ten she submits patiently without a struggle. If this be the case, I think it would be better to refrain from giving chloroform; but if she is of a different disposition, I give it and carry it to a stage of stupor. The same observation is applicable, but not to the same extent, in turning. If the waters have been long discharged, or from narrow brim it has become necessary to proceed very leisurely in turning, I always administer chloroform before beginning the operation. It facilitates it by keeping the woman quiet, and by relaxing the uterus. As to whether hæmorrhage follows from its use, I cannot speak positively. I have been present when in two or three instances I thought a disposition to hæmorrhage, which manifested itself after labour, might be due to the chloroform; but in my own practice I take such exceeding great care to follow down with the hand on the abdomen the uterus as it is expelling the child, and to maintain it in a contracted condition by firm and unrelaxing pressure—continued till the placenta is away and binder on, that neither where chloroform has been given, nor in other cases, have I for years past had a single case of hæmorrhage which caused me anxiety. In both, after the expulsion of the placenta, if there be any sign of hæmorrhage coming on, I invariably give ergot with the best results. I have not found the separation of the placenta arrested by chloroform. In some instances where it has been carried to the state of stupor there may be some delay, but according as the stupor passes off the uterus comes again into action. I have never seen any permanent ill effects from its use. Transient headache, and some nervous excitement have in two or three instances followed, but I rather think they were due to the drug not having been pure. Mania has not occurred in any of my cases. I have not had an opportunity of using chloroform in puerperal mania, but I have no doubt it will prove of use, particularly when the person obstinately refuses to take food. By placing her under its soporific effects nutrient enemata, containing a fit dose of opium, will I am convinced, be found most serviceable. In convulsions which are not of the ethenic character, chloroform is of use, particularly the form attended with or arising from toxæmia.—*Dublin Medical Press.*

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#### AMENORRHŒA CONNECTED WITH AN UNDERSIZED UTERUS.

Dr. Simpson, in a "Lecture on Amenorrhœa; its Local Treatment," published in the *Medical Times and Gazette*, gives the history of a case and its treatment as follows:

"The patient was the sister of a doctor, and had been under the care of various medical men at different times, had from puberty suffered from amenorrhœa and its attendant evils, more especially from asthma, recurring every month, and lasting for several days, and interfering sadly with her health and happiness. She had never once menstruated regularly, the uterus being slightly undersized. She had taken quantities of medicine of every possible kind; had been repeatedly leeches, and had been subjected to many different local applications, sometimes with some little relief to her symptoms, but never with any result at all approaching to cure. Believing that in such a case all hope of radical relief was vain, except through measures directed towards the uterus itself, I persevered for a time in the application of nitrate of silver to the lining membrane of its cavity, in the manner I have described to you; and the operation was always attended with more complete and lasting relief than the patient had ever before experienced. This treatment was for several months persevered in; but both she and