

assisted by Dr. Seguin. To the latter gentleman, as well as to the patient herself, I am indebted for the history and details of her case.

Madame B——, a handsome, intelligent, and lively brunette, now aged thirty four years, of the Parish of Beauport, in the District of Quebec, is the mother of two children, and was attacked with morning sickness, in January 1848, having ceased to menstruate between five and six weeks previously. On a Saturday afternoon, about the seventh week of pregnancy, she fell through a trap door, by which one leg was arrested in the fall, and extended at right angles from her body, causing considerable pain and uneasiness, which, however, soon passed off, and she continued to attend to her domestic affairs, and went to church on the following day, Sunday. On Monday, in the course of the morning, severe intermitting, cutting and lancinating pains in the abdomen, came on, and she was obliged to go to bed, to which she was confined for four or five days, and during that period, warm applications, poultices, &c. were used; and resulted in a mere show, for a moment. From this period, until the expulsion of the fœtus, which occurred in the thirteenth month of pregnancy, she was troubled with constipation, which became more obstinate and intractable as time advanced. She also suffered extreme pain in the lumbar region. She expected to be delivered about the beginning of September, at which time, true to her reckoning, labour pains came on, and the midwife who had attended her on two previous occasions, was summoned to her aid. Three days of active labour followed, accompanied by regular expulsive pains, and she felt the movements of the fœtus distinctly all the time, when all action and movement suddenly ceased, and she felt a dead weight (in her own words), rather behind and to the right side. Vomiting now set in and continued daily, of fœtid green or bluish clayey looking matter, which was sometimes also grey and ashey looking, and sometimes black: but, always very offensive to the smell. From the last period referred to, until the middle of Dec., she was under the care of several medical practitioners, whose treatment, besides general treatment, consisted in a great measure of hot poultices, sinapisms and blisters. From September, when the labour pains ceased, until the termination of the case, the alvine evacuations were of the most offensive character.

The treatment of Dr. Blais, up to the 21st December, offers nothing new or worthy of remark, and had resulted in no clear diagnosis, and it is therefore needless to detail it. At this time, however, Madame B——, who seemed to be sinking, insisted as she had done before, that "the child was in the back passage." A careful examination by external manipulation, and *par vaginam* took place, which is thus described by Dr. S.