

pregnancy. A special interest is attached to this form, inasmuch as one of the most terrible complications which can occur in the pregnant condition, is liable to supervene in these cases, viz: puerperal convulsions, or *eclampsia gravidarum*.

In ward 24 you have had an opportunity of studying one of these cases, and another occurred a few days ago in the Lying-in-Hospital, the post-mortem on which most of you saw.

The history of the first case is as follows:—

Catharine D., æt. 21, was admitted into the General Hospital, March 20th, 1883, with vomiting and headache. She was pregnant, in the eighth month. While in the bath she was seized with a severe convulsion which lasted about two minutes. She then became unconscious. Two hours after, she had a second fit. Examination showed no signs of life in the child. The woman's feet were swollen, and her eyelids puffy. The urine was drawn off, and on boiling was found to be nearly solid with albumen. The specific gravity was 1032. It was dark brown in colour, and contained numerous granular and epithelial casts, with blood corpuscles. She was given ℥ xii. of Battley's sedative solution hypodermically. At five o'clock p.m., there was another slight convulsion, and the hypodermic was repeated, ℥ xv. being given. At ten o'clock p.m., this was again repeated, and she had a good night.

The next day she was easier and passed urine freely. Another hypodermic injection was given, the loins were cupped, and poultices were applied. On the 24th there was occasional vomiting. She had a convulsion last night at ten p.m., and another at six a.m. There was one at midday, followed by another in half an hour. These were all severe, and there was brief coma after each. The Battley's solution was given every six hours hypodermically. In the last twenty-four hours she had passed only of urine, of a normal colour, and not containing much albu-

men. She was given chloral hydrate gr. x. with potass. bromide gr. xx. every four hours.

March 25th.—She has had no convulsions for twenty-four hours. She has had the Battley's solution every four hours for four doses. She had a steam bath this morning, and was better after it.

March 26th.—Has had no opium since last night, there is no vomiting, and the œdema has left the legs. She has passed $\frac{3}{4}$ xxx. of urine in the last twenty-four hours; it was clear and contained albumen, but no casts or blood.

March 27th.—Labour pains came on last night and patient was delivered of a macerated fœtus about eight months old. From the time the pains began the patient was quite delirious. Labour lasted twelve hours, and during it there were no convulsions.

March 28th.—Patient was still delirious, and for three or four days there was an irregular fever. The discharges were free and not offensive, but the uterus was washed out with a solution of carbolic acid two or three times a day.

April 2nd.—The temperature was normal and the patient felt better, and the delirium had ceased.

On the 8th the patient was better, and there was only a very slight trace of albumen in the urine.

To-day, the 10th, the patient is quite well, and will be up to-morrow.

The case which occurred in the Lying-in Hospital is as follows:—This patient was admitted on the 23rd of March, pregnant with her first child. She was 40 years of age. While in the hospital she was noticed to act peculiarly. She said she was married. Was of intemperate habits. Had inflammatory rheumatism five years ago, which left one of her legs stiff. She never complained of swelling of the feet or legs.

Thursday, April 5th.—She was quite well; complained of being very hungry, and ate heavy meals. She first vomited a little after eleven o'clock in the evening.