

labor, destroying the life of the child and eventually that of the mother. There are several interesting points in the matter of diagnosis and treatment to which I would like to invite your attention.

Mrs. C., æt. 28, I-para, was admitted to the Montreal Maternity 19th April, 1890, in active labor, on the recommendation of Dr. Molson, under whose care she had been. Family and personal history good. Menstruation established at the age of 13, regular, painless, and not too free. Last menstrual period concluded on 20th August, 1889. With the exception of slight morning sickness she enjoyed good health till the latter part of January, when she began to feel generally out of sorts, but had no local symptoms. In February she went to Ottawa by rail, and complained a good deal of the jolting of the cars. Some general abdominal pain was felt, which continued after her return to Montreal. She began to be restless and uneasy at night, and often used to get up and walk about the house in order to obtain relief. One morning after a particularly restless night she felt severe pain in the right iliac region, and noticed there, for the first time, a small swelling which was tender to touch. Pain, tenderness and swelling continued in that region thenceforward till the onset of labor. About the end of March she began to suffer from occasional attacks of vomiting and from a short hacking cough, which was very annoying and disturbed her sleep. She felt the child's movements distinctly. About 15th April the abdominal pain became so severe and persistent that she could not sleep. On the 18th, about 6 P.M., the pains became agonizing and almost continuous. On the 19th, about 6 A.M., a quantity of liquor amnii came away, the pain meanwhile growing steadily worse. At 11 A.M. she entered the Maternity. For four nights she had scarcely closed her eyes, and for at least seventeen hours the uterus had been in a state of constant contraction; she was very weak and exhausted. Upon examination the abdominal tumor was found to be prominent and somewhat irregular in outline, in a state of tonic contraction, and very sensitive to touch. Under such circumstances palpation was inexpedient and useless. Foetal heart sounds could not be heard.