

an impossible one here. I believe I have now under my care two cases where the child many years ago was delivered through a contracted pelvis with difficulty, and I believe that it injured the children's brains, as they are not quite right mentally in either case. I have always felt convinced that in bringing down a child by force through the brim we bring down considerable tissue at the same time, diminishing the conjugate. Williams, who is very practical, considers that after one hour of strong second stage pains if the head does not engage, section should be considered if mother and child are in good condition and aseptic precautions and a good operator are possible; that it is less likely to damage the mother and child than severe forceps or version. The Roman Catholic Church demands that if possible the child should be saved and this is almost always possible by section. Outside of the indications at the superior strait the bischial diam. of 7 cm. or less may call for section. Placenta prævia when central with an undilated os and long conical cervix, would I believe be the best for woman, certainly for child, and generally for operator. Partial or lateral placenta prævia I think can be treated, as a rule, more easily by the old method; eclampsia gravidarum I do not believe is either an absolute or relative cause for section, as although quickly ending the labour the irritation of the section is more apt to set up convulsions post partum.

As to relative causes, such a case as No. 5 might be considered one. It would doubtless have been possible to deliver her safely, but under the circumstances I think I was justified. When one considers that under proper conditions the death rate of mother and child should be nil, it should not be considered the *dernier ressort* as it too often fatally is for both. Rapidity of operation also is held to be a very important factor towards success.

Much might be said regarding indication, but I have trespassed already too long on your time. I would say in conclusion that I had the hearty co-operation and assistance of Drs. Burnett and Thompson, my House Surgeon and nurses in all my cases which contributed greatly to their success.

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An important addition to the doctor's library is promised by a new work on Obstetrics, by Dr. Adam H. Wright, Professor of Obstetrics in Toronto Medical College. It is announced to appear in April from the press of Morang & Co., Toronto.