

perusal. Cazcaux adopts the classification of Désormeaux, who ranges all these diseases under the heads of: lesions of digestion, of circulation, of respiration, of the secretions and excretions, of locomotion, and of the sensorial and intellectual functions. Of all the lesions of digestion, vomiting is certainly the most troublesome to the physician and distressing to the patient. Cases occur which resist the best directed efforts for their mitigation; and the vast number of remedies that have been recommended by authorities at different times, prove that even the majority are with difficulty alleviated. Vomiting may appear at any period of gestation, but, as a general rule, it usually occurs soon after impregnation, and extends over a period of two or three months. It may not make its appearance until the fourth or fifth month, or indeed till the latter end of gestation. According to Capuron, when it occurs at an early period, it is to be referred to the sympathy which exists between the uterus and stomach, the irritation of the former organ being communicated to the latter; when later, it is to be attributed to a plethoric condition of the system, produced by a suppression of the menses, particularly in women of a sanguine temperament; and when it appears near the termination of pregnancy, it depends upon the mechanical pressure of the gravid uterus, which, from its size, presses considerably on the abdominal viscera, and thus interferes with the healthy performance of their functions.

All are agreed as to the vomiting being caused by the intimate sympathies existing between the womb and stomach, but still opinions vary greatly upon the etiology of the affection. "*L'étiologie que je viens de proposer*," says Gardien, "*sur le vomissement qui survient dans les premiers temps de la grossesse, suppose deux choses: la première, qu'il peut exister lésion dans un organe, parceque les fonctions d'un autre sont troublées; la seconde, que cette affection symptomatique peut quelquefois augmenter la sensibilité, et d'autres fois la diminuer.*" M. Dance and Dr. Burns were of opinion that inflammatory affections of the uterus, the membranes of the ovum, or the placenta, frequently produce vomiting. According to Carus, a common cause "is overfulness of the portal system, in consequence of the increased vascular action of the genital system, which plethoric constitution often gives rise to inflammatory affections." Campbell considers torpor of the bowels a very fertile source of nausea and vomiting in the gravid state; and Churchill is of opinion that we may place bad smells, peculiar odours and indigestible food, or a torpid state of the bowels, among the occasional exciting causes. Chomel attributed it to softening of the stomach and fatty degeneration of the liver; and lastly, Dr. Bennet, true to his hobby, is fully persuaded that it is to be attributed in almost every instance to the presence of