one at 10, A.M., and the other at 4, P.M. 8, P.M.—Cough has increased, apparently from irritation of the throat. R. McMunn's elixir of opium, gtt. x.; solution of emetin, one sixteenth of a grain. In the course of an hour this quieted the cough.

23d.—Has passed a good night; is up; has a good appetite; slight cough, with catarrh, which continued for a few days, and which was treated by solution of emetin, repeated according to indications, with an anodyne at night, and an occasional alterative of podophyllin. At the end of a week the child was well.

Jan. 9th, 1857, the same child had a similar attack, and again, March 5th, which both yielded to the same treatment without the application of nitrate of silver. The combination used as an emetic in this case has none of the prostrating effects of tartrate of antimony when used alone, or if it has, is effectually and immediately relieved by the timely use of sulphate of quinine.

Morris, Otsego Co., N. Y.

WM. R. BATES.

ARM PRESENTATION AND EVISCERATION OF THE FŒTUS TO EFFECT DELIVERY.

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(Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.)

I WAS called on the 16th of last November, to attend Mrs. D. in her second confinement. She was 21 years of age; a native of Germany. I was informed that she was taken with labor pains about eleven o'clock, the night before, and had had severe pains up to six o'clock that morning, when the membranes gave way, and a large amount of liquor amnii escaped. After that, she had no regular pains up to the time I saw her, which was about 12 o'clock, M., six hours after the water was discharged. I found a German midwife in attendance; she did not know the necessity of immediate action after the water had been discharged, in a case like this. On making an examination, I found the mouth of the uterus completely dilated, and the left arm presenting, with the umbilical cord in the vagina, and which was pulseless. The child lay transversely, with its back forming a right angle with its mother's. The uterus was firmly contracted upon its contents. There were some slight pains, but none that seemed to have any effect to lower the child in the pelvis. The only question with me was whether I should eviscerate and remove with the crotchet, or attempt to turn and deliver by the feet. Her strength was pretty good, and other things seemed favorable, so I was induced to try version. The bowels and bladder had been evacuated a short time before. I passed my hand into the vagina and found the uterus still very firmly contracted upon its contents. The contraction was so great that I could not pass my hand high enough to reach the feet. My only

resort, therefore, was evisceration. She took three grains of opium and rested one hour. I commenced the operation by removing the presenting arm at the shoulder; next, I opened the abdomen and removed the viscera from it and the chest. I then fastened the crotchet to the spine and drew it down so as to enable me to reach one of the legs, which was soon brought into the vagina. After the feet and body were brought down, a pain came on, and the head was removed with very little trouble. The uterus contracted naturally, and in fifteen minutes I removed the placenta. She soon dropped into a refreshing sleep and slept two hours, after which her clothes were changed. Her recovery was as rapid as if nothing unusual had occurred.

I am aware that most authors recommend, in such cases, blood-letting, tartar emetic, &c., in order to relax the uterus sufficiently to enable the accoucheur to turn the fœtus. I speak of this practice only to condemn it, excepting in cases where the child is alive. Then such measures may be resorted to. But what is better, in my opinion, is the administration of ether. It relaxes the muscular system with more certainty than the means above mentioned. The patient is saved the severe pain of the operation, and the shock to the nervous system is far less severe. But if there is unmistakable evidence that the child is dead, evisceration may be employed with less danger than either of the other modes of practice.

Reports of Medical Societies.

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOSTON SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL IMPROVEMENT. BY F. E. OLIVER, M.D., SECRETARY.

MAY 11th.—*Extensive Ulceration of the Colon, attended by comparatively slight Constitutional Symptoms, and terminating in Perforation at several distinct points.* Case reported by Dr. ELLIS.

The specimen was taken from a farmer, 27 years of age. Several years before his death he had quite a severe attack of diarrhoea, from which, however, he entirely recovered. Returning from California in the spring of 1856, he was attacked, in September, with looseness of the bowels, the dejections containing a little blood; but there was no fever and none of the constitutional symptoms which usually accompany acute disease. Indeed, so little was he inconvenienced by the disorder, that he continued to work as usual upon the farm for several weeks. At the end of this time, however, wishing for medical advice, he consulted an Indian physician, but deriving no benefit from his prescriptions, he became the victim of a female spiritualist, who, after "looking into him," prescribed with no better result than her predecessor. Finally, some weeks before his death, he consulted Dr. JAMES JACKSON, who ascertained that the dejections were numerous, and occasionally fœcal, but also very bloody, with more or less pus and mucus. There was