Thimble in the Uterus.

fact in relation to the plague in the time of Sydenham, such the charac-
ter of the yellow fever as reported by Rush, and such was notoriously the
case in the late singular peregrinations of the epidemic cholera. And,
it is believed, such has been the controlling influence of all preceding
epidemics. The idea, therefore, of “concomitant epidemics” is at best
extremely paradoxical, if not an absurdity. It is what mathematicians
call the occupancy of the same space at the same time by two bodies,
which they regard physically impossible.

Celsius advised women to be treated after delivery as though they had
received some wound in an important organ or part of the body; and
Willis says, “women in child-bed ought to be managed not only as per-
sons sorely wounded, but as having gotten a feverish disposition.” These
averments probably have foundation in matter of fact. The process of
parturition leaves the interior surface of the uterus partially, at least, de-
nuded. It is a species of wound. And experience has too well shown,
that wherever erysipelatous fever has prevailed, epidemically, most
wounds or organic lesions have been the occasion of an attack of the
prevalent disease. Puerperal lesions constitute no exception to the gen-
eral results. Indeed, that this is the fact, appears demonstrated from some
cases incidentally related by Dr. G. himself. In his sixth reported case,
“on the fifth day” there was “a complete termination of the fever.”
The crisis was by a diarrhoea, accompanied with an erysipelas of one of
the arms.” In another case mentioned by him, the wife of Wm. Walker,
a crisis was formed by the appearance “of an erysipelas on the integu-
ments of the abdomen.” Dr. Gordon remarks (page 49), “a very fre-
cquent crisis of the disease is by an external erysipelas; which is a proof
that there is a metastasis, or translation, of the inflammation from the in-
ternal to the external parts.” This fact appears clearly to admit the
identity of these affections, or the erysipelatous character of the puerpe-
ral fever of Aberdeen, else a change of character must have taken place
in the metastasis.

[To be continued.]

THIMBLE IN THE UTERUS.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

November 2nd, 1836, I was called to Mrs. F., married woman, aged 30,
of a plethoric habit, who was suffering with severe pain in the back and
lower part of the abdomen, accompanied with vascular and nervous ex-
citement. Since the birth of her only child, who was three years old,
she has had almost constant pain in the back. She has menstruated regu-
larly, but with difficulty, having about every three months so much dis-
tress as to require medical attendance. She passed the last period with-
out menstruating, and it was then near her time. Venesection was suc-
cceeded by a rigor, and afforded no relief from pain. In order to ascertain
the cause of this evidently uterine pain, I made an examination per vagi-
nam. The os tincæ was sufficiently dilated to admit the point of the
RESULT OF AN OPERATION FOR THE CURE OF SPERMATORRHœA.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

In the 1st No. of Vol. XXIX. of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, are the details of an operation performed by Dr. Josiah Crosby (formerly of this place, but now of Manchester, N. H.), upon a young gentleman for the cure of seminal weakness. The operation being no less than the entire removal of the testicles, was novel in its nature, and undoubtedly unwarrantable as a general method of procedure in such cases. But, be that as it may, the results in this case have been highly gratifying, if we may judge from the great change which has been wrought in the condition of the patient by the operation. From being an utter outcast from society, almost completely demented, and destined apparently to the life of a miserable recluse, his very existence absolutely unknown to the nearest neighbors of the family, a complete metamorphosis has been effected both physically and mentally. Instead of being little better than a drizzling idiot, as at the time of the operation, with just reason enough to implore anything which afforded him a chance of relief, he is now actively engaged in mercantile pursuits, with mental vigor as well as physical capacity much above mediocrity. The first ray of light which follows the removal of a congenital blindness, would elicit no livelier expressions of gratitude than the results of this operation do now call forth from the unfortunate subject of it. This, too,