

truded, and was firmly adherent to this membrane, the two portions being separated by a dense septum. The crystalline lens and vitreous humour were perfect and unaltered in structure, but were tinged throughout of a dark hue, looking as if slightly smoked; the colour could not be removed by washing. The muscles of the eyeball were not implicated in the disease.

*Trismus Nascentium*.—Dr. V. N. WOOTEN of Lowndesboro', Ala., in a letter to the editors of the *New Orleans Med. and Surg. Journ.*, (No. May, 1846,) states that trismus nascentium is of fearful frequency in the cotton plantations of his section of Alabama. "I am not prepared," he remarks, "to compare it with other maladies in respect to frequency, but I believe that it destroys more negroes than any other single disease, in this region of country. In a practice of ten years amongst these plantations, I have seen a great many cases. Sometimes, I have found it of such frequent occurrence, as to present the appearance of an epidemic. Yet I have never seen a white child afflicted with the disease. Is this the case in New Orleans?"

"Again: I have never seen a case of *decided* trismus nascentium, that did not prove fatal. Indeed, so well is this characteristic of the disease now known, that it is very generally deemed utterly useless to call in medical aid, after the initiatory symptoms are well developed.

"I have tried every plan of treatment which books, or the most anxious study on my part could suggest, but all wholly in vain.

"I have made post-mortem examinations in several cases, and found the pathological appearances as uniform as in any other disease. They are as follows:—Heavy vascular engorgement of the peritoneum throughout its whole extent, denoting the highest inflammation. All the portion surrounding the entrance of the umbilical cord into the abdomen, for a circumference of from one to three inches, was in a gangrenous condition. The liver was unnaturally heavy and stiff, with its veins fully injected with fluid blood. There was also heavy engorgement of the substance and membranes of the base of the brain, and along the medulla oblongata, and cervical portion of the spinal marrow.

"I have usually observed the first symptoms to make their appearance about the time the umbilical cord comes away, and from this I at first supposed that it was the effect of awkwardness in dressing the navel by the ignorant midwives who usually attend on the plantations, but careful investigation led to nothing conclusive on this point.

*Extra-Uterine Fœtation—Gastrotomy—cure*.—Dr. ALEX. H. STEVENS relates in the *New York Journal of Medicine*, (May, 1846,) a case of extra-uterine fœtation, in which a full-grown fœtus was successfully extracted by him, about ten years after conception, by the operation of gastrotomy.

*Tincture of Water Pepper in Amenorrhœa*.—Dr. EBERLE states that he has found no remedy so effectual in the cure of amenorrhœa as the tincture of water pepper, (*Polygonum Hydropiperoides*, Mich.; *P. Punctatum*, Elliott.)

Dr. T. L. OGLIER, in a paper in the *Southern Journal of Med. and Pharm.*, May, 1846, also extols it as the most certain of our emmenagogues, and relates four cases successfully treated by it. He says that he knows of no medicine that has a more decided action on the uterus in producing the menstrual discharge. The preparation used by Dr. O. was a strong tincture made from the stem, leaves, and flowers; but he thinks that the active principle of the plant resides chiefly in the leaves. The dose was a teaspoonful of the tincture, three times a day in a little sweetened water.

*Medical Schools of the United States*.—From the Catalogues of these Institutions, which we have received, it appears that during the past year the number of students was nearly 5000, and that the degree of M. D. has been conferred upon 1300.