

are entirely healed. Mr. G.'s general health during his illness has been very good.

The lightning did not, as usual, strike the mast first, but chose the peak of the gaff, which at that time was several inches higher than the truck. It ran along the head of the sail, fusing the brass thimbles there, then taking a leap downward, leaving hardly any mark on the sail, until, within about fifteen feet from the deck, its track is again visible; and passing down the luff of the sail it tore out a piece about ten feet long by a foot wide; the current was here diverted by Mr. G.'s person. A small splinter was raised on the after side of the mast, about twelve feet from the deck. This is the only place where the boat is injured.

The clothes worn by Mr. G. are very curiously torn by the electric fluid. He had on, at the time, an overcoat. Over the right shoulder there is a small hole, through which the lightning first entered. The whole right sleeve is torn apart and split into a number of small strips; the undercoat is torn in much the same manner, and the sleeve of the shirt is also torn into ribbons. The vest and shirt both show a black mark where the watch-chain lay. The former has but one hole in it, viz., where the fluid passed out of the watch-pocket. The pantaloons and drawers were torn in a manner similar to the coat sleeve and shirt. A small hole shows where the fluid entered the pocket, and another where it left it after having traversed the rim of the porte-monnaie, the money contained in which was untouched. Three buttons were torn off his right gaiter, and the side split down as smoothly as it could have been done with a knife. The watch worn by Mr. G. was stopped at twelve minutes past five, the exact time of the occurrence of the accident.

The other gentlemen in the boat were not injured.

A SINGULAR CASE OF MISCARRIAGE AND RETAINED PLACENTA.

BY G. S. PALMER, GARDINER, ME.

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ON the 15th of April, I was called to visit a lady, whose previous health had been good, and who was the mother of several children; her husband had been absent about two months. She complained of slight pain in the loins, a weight through the hips, and a strange sensation in the vagina, from which, for about four weeks, she had had an occasional sanious discharge, with considerable leucorrhœa. About that time, she had experienced some severe contracting pains, and a small discharge of liquid resembling the "waters" or liquor amnii, and no pain since. The catamenia had been suspended for about four months previous to the pain. On examination, *per vaginam*, I was not a little surprised to find a fœtus of about five months' development, but very small, resting on the perinæum, with its head in the cavity of the uterus. The child was easily re-

moved, and found to be natural in every respect except its size. It was covered with a slimy mucus, instead of the chalky secretion common in most cases, but its skin, and every part of it, was in a perfect state of preservation, and it could have been dead but a few hours. An interesting question here arose, as to when this child was extruded from the womb.

On attempting to remove the placenta, my efforts were all in vain; ergot was administered to no purpose, the walls of the vagina were so rigid that it was impossible to introduce the hand, or to make successful use of placenta forceps, and the umbilicus was accidentally broken near its attachment. A frightful hæmorrhage now ensued, which was soon arrested by the use of the tampon and astringent injections, and the patient, carefully watched, was put upon a sustaining treatment, and the case left to nature.

On the fourth morning, I was informed, by the nurse, that the afterbirth had all come away, and that it had been accidentally thrown aside, although contrary to the strictest orders. I was distrustful of this, knowing how easily she might be deceived by a coagulum; but the hæmorrhage subsiding, and the patient's health improving, I was glad to be relieved from my embarrassment by adopting the same conclusion. A tonic course soon restored the patient to fair health, although the catamenia did not appear.

On the 12th of August following, I was summoned in haste to see this patient. She was flooding copiously, and having strong contracting pains, which soon expelled from the uterus a roundish substance, about three and a half inches in diameter, which, on examination, proved to consist of the placenta, the membranes, and the rudiments of the cord, all in a perfect state of preservation, surrounded, imbedded and packed in a semi-organized, cartilaginous substance, about three fourths of an inch in thickness.

Thus did nature *hermetically* seal up, and perfectly protect from decomposition, in a high temperature for four months, a foreign substance, which it could not throw off at the proper time; and when the system returned to a proper state and condition, she relieved herself by expelling the same.

Experimental Investigations on Animal Temperature.—M. Claude Bernard has just laid before the Academy of Sciences of Paris an account of a series of experiments on animals, to elucidate the questions connected with the production of heat. From these experiments the eminent physiologist considers that he is justified in drawing the following inferences:—1. The circulation of the blood through the lungs *lowers* the temperature of the fluid. 2. The lungs can, therefore, not be regarded as a focus of animal heat. 3. The arterialization of venous blood, in the living animal, is not connected with an *increase*, but, on the contrary, with a *decrease* of heat in the blood.—*London Lancet*.