

death was clearly *post-partum* hæmorrhage and effusion into the pericardium. "And it leaves on our mind the lamentable conviction that had there been prompt means employed directly to the uterus to ensure its contraction, this valuable life might have been spared."

"A Practitioner of the Old School" is not so far wrong after all in thinking that the forceps are too frequently used nowadays. After an experience of nearly forty years only two cases of complete rupture of the perineum have occurred in my own practice, during which period I delivered close on 7,000 women. One of the cases occurred without instrumental aid; in the other the forceps were used, but it was evident from the first rupture would take place from narrowness of the vagina.

I have heard of more cases of rupture of the perineum during the last ten or twelve years than I ever did before that period, and I believe this to be due to "meddlesome midwifery." Aid in delivery by forceps ought to depend on whether a woman is able to deliver herself by natural efforts or not. This ought to be the guide to the use of the forceps, and not the time she may be in labour.

It ought to be remembered that assistance, however small, increases the risks in obstetric practice, and is therefore not to be resorted to unless absolutely necessary.

THE WINTER OF 1888-89 AT BEXHILL-ON-SEA.

MR. EDWARD H. RYAN-TENISON, A.A.Oxon., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A.Lond., sends the following particulars: The sunshine is from ocular observation; at least 75 per cent. of which could be registered as bright sunshine. The wind-record is from ocular observation. The rain-record is taken from 7 A.M. to 10 P.M. The temperature-record is from an accurate maximum and minimum thermometer, sun-screened and wind-screened (since December 31st on N.N.E. side of the house, before that date on S.S.W. side of the house). N.B.—Since January 15th the temperature minimum records from a thermometer on N.N.E. aspect of the house are included.

December:—Sunshine: 112 hours. Wind: westerly, 17 days; easterly, 10 days; calm, 4 days. Rain fell on 14 days. Temperature: average max., 54.4°; average min., 50.1°; average range, 3.3°; mean for the month, 52.1°.

January:—Sunshine, 64½ hours. Wind: westerly, 13 days; easterly, 14 days; calm, 4 days. Rain fell on 14 days. Temperature: average max., 49.4°; average min., 43.4°; average range, 6.0°; mean for the month, 46.4°; average min. for 15 days, with a full N.N.E. exposure, 40.4°.

February:—Sunshine, 77½ hours. Wind: westerly, 15 days; easterly, 11 days; calm, 0. Rain fell on 23 days. Snow fell on 12 days. Temperature: average max., 47.4°; average min., 40.4°; average range, 7.0°; mean for the month, 43.4°; average min. for 28 days, with a full N.N.E. exposure, 36.4°.

AN EXTREME VIEW.

It is reported in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* that a Mrs. Eddy, in the course of a lecture explaining the doctrines of the Christian Scientists to a New York audience, enunciated a therapeutic opinion which, even to the most extreme homeopathist, must appear extreme. "I have found," she said, "by actual experiment that as the drug is attenuated its power is increased, until, when the drug is all gone, and there is only mind, its greatest efficacy is reached."

A MULTIPARA.

I. N. S. writes: Last month a patient of mine gave birth to triplets. She is 39 years of age, has been married nineteen years, and during that time has borne seventeen children. During the past two years she has given birth to five children, including, of course, the three born together. This notice of an exceptionally fruitful vine may be interesting to your readers.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR correspondents are reminded that prolixity is a great bar to publication, and, with the constant pressure upon every department of the JOURNAL, brevity of style and conciseness of statement greatly facilitate early insertion. We are compelled to return and hold over a great number of communications chiefly by reason of their unnecessary length.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:

Dr. F. P. Atkinson, Surbiton; Dr. Sarell, Constantinople; Dr. Whitelegge, Nottingham; Dr. T. W. Hime, Bradford; Sir J. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. W. W. Jones, London; A General Practitioner; Dr. C. N. Gwynne, Sheffield; Mr. M. D. W. Gilkes, Ludlow; Dr. R. Gooding, London; Dr. J. Woodman, Exeter; Our Australian Correspondent; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Mr. R. D. Patterson, Caledon; Mr. C. Averill, Macclesfield; Dr. H. R. O. Sankey, Hatton; Dr. Kelly, Taunton; Dr. J. W. Washburn, London; Dr. J. B. Ball, London; Mr. A. Carter, London; Mr. H. L. Jones, Bristol; Mr. Addison, Colchester; Dr. R. R. Rentoul, Liverpool; Army Medical Staff; Mr. J. Griffiths, Cambridge; Mr. FitzJames Molony, Porlock; Miss Bone, London; Dr. H. B. Pope, Kingston; Dr. D. Biddle, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. J. D. Harris, Exeter; Dr. L. Drage, Hatfield; Dr. Macpherson, London; C. J. Mouncey, M.B., Earlestown; Mr. F. F. Jones, Llanfyllin; Mr. W. D. Smallpiece, London; Mr. J. Coates, London; Mr. Timothy Holmes, London; Dr. Harry Scott, London; Dr. Clark, Sevenoaks; Dr. A. G. Barrs, Leeds; F. A. Neal, M.B., Longhope; Mr. G. R. Leeper, Ederney; Mr. R. G. Patterson, Dublin; Mr. J. Harper, Barnstaple; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Mr. E. Hurry Fenwick, London; Mr. W. H. Hallam, Newcastle, Staffs; Dr. Major Greenwood, London; Mr. C. A. Patten, London; Mr. T. W. Skrimshire, Morpeth; Mr. J. F. Pink, London; Mr. W. Lees, Chester; Dr. N. Stark, Glasgow; Messrs. Gee and Co., London; The Secretary of the Royal Statistical Society, London; Dr. Raitt, Harpurhey; Sir Ralph Thompson, London; Dr. John Gordon, Aberdeen;

Dr. John Rorie, Liff, N.B.; Dr. Ernest Reynolds, Manchester; Mr. F. Page, Newcastle; F. Cadell, M.B., Edinburgh; Dr. D. Macleod, Kilmarnock; Dr. J. Neil, Oxford; Dr. P. T. Duncan, Croydon; Dr. Drysdale, London; Dr. W. R. Watson, Govan; Mr. C. Combs, Castle Cary; Dr. S. Mackenzie, London; Dr. R. Crocker, London; The Secretary of the Sanitary Institute, London; James Rowat, M.B., Tarbolton; Messrs. Hall and English, Birmingham; Mr. G. P. Atkinson, Pontefract; Mr. H. A. Powell, Beckenham; Mr. P. Smith, Birmingham; Dr. Maguire, London; Mr. J. D. Williamson, Belfast; Dr. W. Steele, London; Mr. B. Roth, London; Mr. R. J. Collins, Dulverton; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Dr. Scott, Ilkley; Mr. Stoker, London; Mr. P. T. Carpenter, London; Dr. Walter Reid, London; Dr. C. Godson, London; Mrs. Cogan, Northampton; Dr. J. Brown, Bacup; Mr. R. T. Smith, London; Mr. Malcolm Morris, London; Mr. E. Murphy, Ballyroan; The Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; Mr. N. M. Macfie, Tighnabruach; Dr. R. Stockman, Edinburgh; W. H. Wigham, M.B., York; Dr. A. W. Edis, London; Dr. W. Nelligan, Croydon; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. J. T. Neech, Oswestry; Mr. T. G. Parrott, Aylesbury; G. E. Crowe, M.B., Manchester; Mr. W. A. Ellis, London; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; Mr. W. Heap, Liverpool; Dr. G. Thin, London; T. A. Watson, M.B., Sunderland; Dr. R. Barnes, London; Mr. J. D. Rice, Dudley; W. J.; Dr. C. F. Grindrod, Malvern; Dr. R. J. Collie, Sunderland; Mr. A. T. Norton, London; Mr. W. Wagstaffe, Sevenoaks; Mr. MacAlister, London; Dr. A. H. Lewers, London; Dr. Leech, Manchester; F. Mead, M.B., Taunton; Dr. Samuel Sloan, Glasgow; Mr. R. B. Graham, Leven; Dr. Charles Macdowell, Carlou; Mr. J. F. Craig, Birmingham; Mr. William Gillow, Bishop Stortford; Mr. A. M. Barford, Liverpool; The Income-tax Repayment Agency, London; Mr. J. Holmes, Radcliffe; Mr. W. Johnson, Leeds; Dr. J. M. V. Prendergast, Paris; Mr. P. B. Burroughs, Weston-super-Mare; Mr. R. J. H. Scott, Bath; Mr. A. G. Reid, Stornoway; Mr. F. T. Paul, Liverpool; A. Auld, M.B., Snaith; Mr. A. Tuthell, Woking; Messrs. Orridge and Co., London; Retired; Mr. J. Coates, London; Mr. N. H. Nixon, London; Mr. Humphreys, London; Dr. F. C. Turner, London; Mr. H. F. Devis, Bristol; Mr. R. R. Sleman, London; Dr. A. W. Stirling, Grays; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Notes on Physiology. By Henry Ashby, M.D. Lond., M.R.C.P. Fifth Edition. Illustrated. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1889.
Jenner and Vaccination: a Strange Chapter of Medical History. By Charles Creighton, M.D. London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co. 1889.
Looking Backward, 2000-1887. By Edward Bellamy. Seventeenth Edition. London: William Reeves.
Mechanics and Experimental Science. By Edward Aveling, D.Sc. Magnetism and Electricity. London: Chapman and Hall. 1889.
Mechanics and Experimental Science. By Edward Aveling, D.Sc. Heat and Light. London: Chapman and Hall. 1889.
A Textbook of Pathology, Systematic and Practical. By D. J. Hamilton, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.S.E. Vol. I. London: Macmillan and Co. 1889.
Papers on Dermatology. By E. D. Mapother, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1889.
Lectures on Bright's Disease. By Robert Saundby, M.D. Edin. With 500 illustrations. London: Hamilton, Adams and Co. 1889.
Elements of Histology. By E. Klein, M.D., F.R.S. New and enlarged Edition. London: Cassell and Co., Limited.
The Powers of the London County Council in regard to the Housing of the Working Classes. By William Chance, M.A. London: Whiting and Co.

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