

but upon the most accurate inspection, both by Dr. Jackson and several other gentlemen who have since viewed the preparation, it is evident that this child, which can scarcely be called a female, was born without either ovaria, uterus, or vagina.

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XI. *Case of Apoplexy in a pregnant Woman; with Observations. By Mr. Philip Williams, Surgeon at Rugby in Warwickshire. Communicated in a Letter to John Clarke, M.D. Teacher of Midwifery in London; and by him to Dr. Simmons.*

THE following case, which I offer to you, appears to me to deserve attention, not only from the remarkable situation of the children, but also from the circumstances attending

kidney much enlarged; and *f* to the termination of the left ureter.

Fig. II. shows the right kidney, uncommonly small.

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the death of the patient. I shall first take notice of the latter, and then proceed to make some few remarks on the former.

A woman, about forty years of age, who was the mother of several children, had advanced to the last month of her pregnancy without any thing remarkable having occurred. One day, when she was in apparent good health, and going about her usual occupations, upon a slight exertion she suddenly complained of a violent pain in her head, and had scarcely time to reach a chair, into which she sunk, and never stirred nor spoke afterwards.

On my coming to her, and finding her quite dead, I introduced my finger into the vagina, and found the os uteri dilated to the size of a crown piece; but was prevented, by the husband's coming, (who would not suffer any thing to be done) from ascertaining what part presented.

Dr. Baillie and Mr. Cruikshank afterwards examined, with me, the body at their dissecting room. On opening the head coagulated blood was found in all the ventricles, and some had penetrated the very substance of the right optic nerve.

From the quantity of blood, (for there was



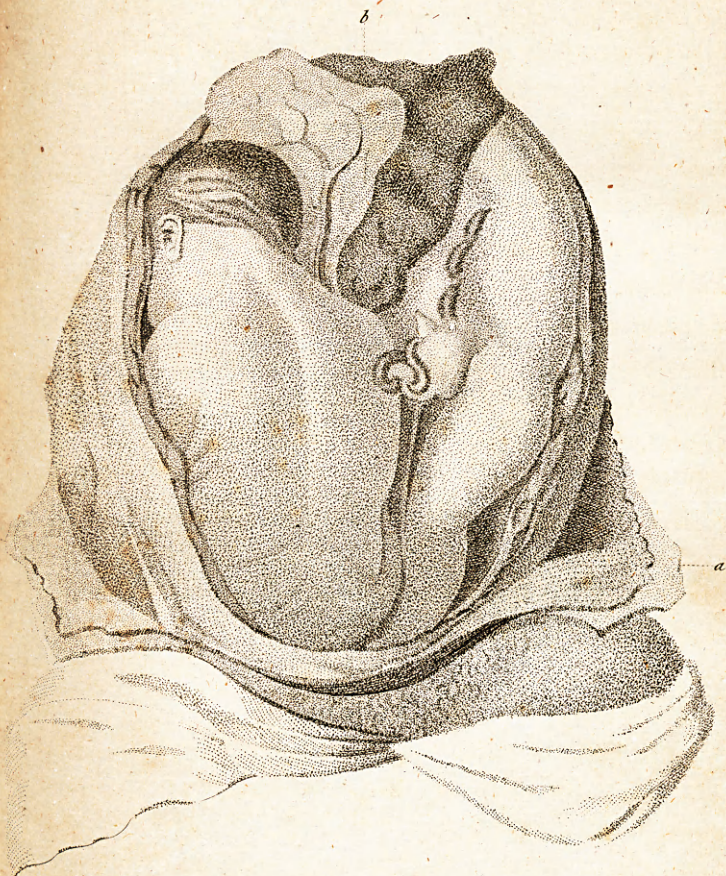
between two and three ounces) and from the situation in which it was found, we need not wonder at the sudden death of the patient. But it deserves attention to enquire how far we shall be able to trace the cause of the extravasation. The woman was by no means of a plethoric habit; neither was she, at the time of her seizure, using any violent exertion.

Might not a disposition to labour having come on, from the connexion known to exist between the brain and the uterus, produce a greater determination of blood to the brain than its vessels were capable of bearing, and hence occasion the rupture? That there had been an affection of the uterus, appears very probable from the state in which the os uteri was found.

The presentation has, I believe, never been before delineated. Both children, as will be seen by the plate \*, present preternaturally; one with the breech, the other with the foot.

It may become a question whether any difficulty would have occurred in the delivery? And also which of these children would have been born first had labour come on? It is most pro-

\* See Plate II. in which the letters *a*, *a*, refer to the parietes of the abdomen, and *b* to the fundus uteri with the placenta adhering.





bable that the woman would have been delivered without any thing unusual occurring or having been known of the situation in which the children had lain in the womb. Had the labour been suffered to proceed of its own accord, I think that the one whose breech now presents would have been born first. For though the child, whose foot presents, (and which is under the breech of the other) has its head nearest to the fundus of the uterus, and consequently when the uterus came into action, the longitudinal fibres would have acted most completely upon it; yet from the circular form in which it lies, its head, instead of acting upon its own body, would probably have acted upon the head of the other child whose breech presents, and forcing it down, might either itself have gradually gone round, and, before the first child had been born, making a complete evolution, have been born head first; or it might have remained with its head where it now is, and after the birth of the other child have come with its feet first.

One of the above circumstances, I think, would have happened had Nature been left to herself; but had the woman been attended in labour

by one who was impatient of delay, it is most probable that when the foot was found presenting, that child would have been brought first, in which case I do not think that any difficulty would have occurred in the delivery of the other.

*Query.* Might not the labour mentioned in the thirty-eighth chapter of Genesis, v. 28, 29, and 30, have been similar to the case which I have related; and that though the hand of one of the children was lowest at the beginning of labour, yet as the most bulky part of the other child was below the body of this child, the hand receded, and the other child came first into the world?

XII. *Description of Kilburn Wells, and Analysis of their Water.* By Mr. Joh. Godfr. Schmeiffer. Vide *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for the Year 1792. Part I.* 4to. London, 1792.

THESE wells lie in a meadow, to the right of the Edgware road, about two miles from London.

The author observes that they spring about twelve feet below the surface; that the water is  
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