and delivery of the child. I saw Mrs. Skelton a few days ago, when she was perfectly well, but no pulsation could be felt in any of the arteries of the left arm.

In sending you the above case, I do not presume to have added any new fact to pathological science. Mr. Turner, in the third volume of the "Edinburgh Medico-Chirurgical Transactions," has given an interesting paper on this subject, in which he has adduced several cases of this kind; indeed, I believe he has brought forward all that is known of the pathology of this disease. However, in examining the cases related in his paper, I do not find one so unassociated with any other premonitory circumstance, or terminating in so complete a recovery.

To enter upon any reasoning as to the proximate cause of the obstruction in this case, would be taking up too much space in your valuable journal; but, judging from what took place in other cases, which terminated less favourably, and were examined after death, it may be conjectured that the obliteration was occasioned by spontaneous rupture of the internal coat of the artery, and the projection of its edges into the tube.

Mr. Turner's paper will tell the reader all about the matter.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours, &c.,

W. S. OKE, M.D.

Southampton, April 14, 1842.

ARTIFICIAL PREMATURE LABOUR.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

GENTLEMEN,—If you consider the following case worthy your notice, you will oblige me by inserting it in the "Provincial Medical Journal." I am fully aware, in transmitting this case to you, that I have been solely carrying out a practice long since established in midwifery; but, as it has been a case of some interest to myself, I thought it might prove so likewise to some of the junior members of the Provincial Association.

Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL S. BRAME.

Lowestoft, April 12, 1842.

Elizabeth Bristow, aged 28, has been married seven years, and pregnant six times. Having a slightly contracted pelvis, and generally very large children, she has never been able to give birth to a fetus at the full period of utero-gestation, without submitting to the operation of embryotomy. Her first confinement took place in September, 1836, when she was delivered of a living child in the eighth month, no artificial means being used to bring on labour.

In the month of December, 1837, having gone her full time, the operation of embryotomy was performed for the first time.

In October, 1838, I first attended her, when she gave birth to a seven months' child. On the 4th of September, 1839, embryotomy was the second time performed upon a nine months' fetus. At that time I desired her, should she ever become pregnant again,

to inform me of the fact at the end of the seventh month. In her fifth pregnancy she miscarried towards the conclusion of the sixth month, in November, 1840.

Not having forgotten my request made to her at the last operation, her mother called upon me, a short time since, to say that her daughter was again pregnant, and in her seventh month. Being childless, and naturally dreading to undergo an operation so distressing to the feelings of a mother, she earnestly requested me, if it were possible, to relieve her at once. I waited until I considered she was somewhat advanced in her eighth month; and on Saturday, April 2, at twelve o'clock at noon, after administering a dose of castor-oil, and subsequently an enema, I punctured the membranes, by introducing a pointed quill through the os uteri, using the index finger of the right hand as a director.

Half an hour after this operation about two pints of liquor amnii escaped, the patient experiencing at the same time slight pain in the abdomen. Irregular pains, preceded by shiverings, supervened; on the following day, at noon, the os uteri was fully dilated. At six o'clock on the same day I administered a dose of the ergot of rye, which was repeated at seven o'clock, and at eight my patient was delivered of a living child, thirty-two hours after puncturing the membranes.

Both mother and child are doing well.

NEWCASTLE MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SOCIETY.

The eighth anniversary meeting of this valuable institution was held a few nights ago, when a report of the proceedings of the past year was read by Mr. Greenhow, the indefatigable secretary of the society. We shall best convey an impression of the objects and prospects of the society, by giving an extract from the report:—"Its proceedings during the past year have been characterised by more than ordinary interest, both as regards the number of facts and the practical information which have been brought forward at the monthly meetings, and the interesting discussions to which they have given rise. The increasing success of these meetings, and the larger number of members in attendance at them, have contributed, in no small degree, to the greater popularity of the society, and promise to be the means of enlarging the sphere of its usefulness, by inducing many gentlemen, who had not hitherto joined the society, to enrol themselves amongst its members, that they may share in the important benefits which it is so well adapted to diffuse throughout the ranks of the profession in the neighbourhood. It was the earnest wish of the originators of the institution that it should comprise, in its list of members, the names of all the practitioners in the district, as a means of concentrating professional and scientific information, and promoting social and friendly feeling amongst them; and the desire lately manifested to enter into the society encourages a reasonable hope that the early anticipations of its founders are about to be in a great degree realized."

Floreat res medica.—*Gateshead Observer.*