Here we have a case, not merely of simple placenta prævia, but a double surface exposed, there having been two placenta; the fibres of the womb, first in a state of rigid contraction, then the irritation consequent upon the performance of embryotomy; and, lastly, a state of excessive relaxation, and still not a drop of hæmorrhage, and the female entirely recovered. I present this case, so interesting in its nature, so apparently formidable in its character, hoping that those under whose observation it may fall will be induced to investigate the cause of so favorable a result.

I may be allowed here to add the great importance of an obstetrician always being in attendance upon a parturient female, no matter how simple the presentation, or how favorable the circumstances of her case. Had a practitioner been present at the commencement of the case just related, the life of a human being might have been saved, which was certainly sacrificed to ignorant midwifery, though the result to the female was as fortunate as could possibly occur.—*Amer. Journ. Med. Sci.*, Oct., 1843.

THE
SPONTANEOUS EXPULSION OF A LARGE
POLYPUS,

TWO DAYS AFTER THE DELIVERY OF A FINE
HEALTHY MALE CHILD.

By JOHN DAVIS, M.D., of Smithville, South Carolina.

May 23, 1843. I was summoned to Mrs. C—, aged thirty-two. When I arrived I found her to have been in labor twelve hours, with her fifth child. The presentation was natural, and the soft parts well dilated. The pains were, and, I was informed, had been, pretty strong for three hours previous to my arrival, yet they were irregular, intermitting, and of little effect. She was greatly exhausted by the continuance of her sufferings, and the violence of her exertions, and a serious question arose in my mind what I should do. If we would be governed by authors in general, it was a case in which the ergot might have been given with good effect. Considering the only difficulty, however, to depend upon the irregularity of the pains, I resolved to wait an hour or two, and see if nature herself would not accomplish the delivery; and, to my great joy, in half an hour the pains became more regular and forcible, and, on examination I found the head advancing with a pretty fair prospect of a hasty delivery. It was now just entering the brim of the pelvis, when profuse hæmorrhage came on, the woman sunk rapidly from copious loss of blood, the pains ceased almost entirely, and, indeed, the case became alarming. I ordered her such remedies as appeared most pressingly indicated, and in the course of half an hour the hæmorrhage ceased, the woman revived, the uterus regained its wonted powers, and in fifteen minutes more she was delivered of a large healthy male child. The afterbirth seemed to be slightly adherent, but was soon delivered with little difficulty, and without much hæmorrhage. In short, all things seemed to do well, excepting the uncommonly severe afterpains, which led me to place my hand over the abdomen, when I was a little surprised to find it but slightly

diminished in size, especially over the region of the womb. This led to a still further examination, *per vaginam*, and to my utter astonishment I discovered a large resisting tumor firmly impacted in the uterus. Satisfying myself as to its character, I did not examine as to its location, as the soft parts were very tender to the touch, and as the patient was very much enfeebled; nor was it necessary, as that was not the proper time to search for a pedicle or neck, or if its location were ascertained, to apply the ligature.

I gave such directions as I conceived the case required at the time, and left the lady with the fullest assurance that I would see her as often as circumstances would permit. Late in the afternoon of the day following, however, I was requested to visit her in haste, as her pains had returned with increased violence; but before I arrived she was spontaneously delivered of a polypus, weighing eleven ounces, without the slightest hæmorrhage.

The polypus is now in my possession. Its pedicle or stem is about an inch long and about two in circumference; it is similar to a fungous excrescence, and is covered by a thick membrane. It is full of large veins and arteries, some of the former being varicose.

This is the 19th of June, 1843, and the lady has recovered entirely; and says she feels much stronger than she did during the four last months of her pregnancy. She also states that she was not aware of there being anything wrong about her womb till after she was three months gone, at which time it seemed to be fuller than ordinarily at that stage of pregnancy, and there was also a slight vaginal secretion. These seemed to be the only signs, of which she is aware, that could be considered as symptoms of the disease. She is of a stout, robust constitution, and her general health has been good from her infancy with slight exceptions.—*Amer. Journ. Med. Sci.*, Oct., 1843.

CASE
OF
TRAUMATIC TETANUS,
IN WHICH THE SULPHATE OF QUINIA WAS SUCCESS-
FULLY USED.

By JOHN W. MALONE, M.D., of Quincy, Florida.

On the 15th of May, my colleague, Dr. William Booth, was called to see a negro girl, about twelve years old, of sound constitution, laboring under the usual symptoms of tetanus, particularly that variety called opisthotonos. The history of the case was as follows:—About ten or twelve days previously she said "she stuck a nail in her foot," to which a lye poultice was applied, but, suffering no farther inconvenience from it, no particular attention was given her, until the muscles of the extremities became rigid, with inability to move without inducing spasm; stiffness of the jaw supervened, and the spine was drawn back in a curve, all of which was supposed to have been produced from a fall she received on the day these symptoms occurred. She was bled, had her bowels operated on, and took morphia, but the symptoms became more violent, and excited in the minds of the family the suspicion that they might be produced from the wound in the foot, which they had supposed well. An examination was consequently