small. On the other hand the predominance of the North wind in the first five months sufficiently explains the considerable number of admissions, which, with the exception of the month of February, were furnished by these months.

Such are the facts. We have simply stated them, not wishing, on data so general, to enter upon inductions or explanations which future reviews bearing upon facts more definite and more significant may permit us to present, perhaps, with more effect. The only conclusion that we are at present able to draw is the following:—

The weight and the temperature of the air, whether considered by themselves, or in their variations, do not appear to exercise any appreciable influence on the public health, or at least on the movement of the hospitals. The degree of humidity of the atmosphere, and the direction of the winds, on the contrary, appear to exert a well-marked influence.

Although this conclusion is, in great part, negative, we shall not regret to have stated it, if further researches should confirm its justice, as the overturning of a belief in imaginary influences must tend to advance the cause of etiology.

CASES OF PLACENTAL PRESENTATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

The following cases of placenta presentations having occurred to me lately, I shall feel obliged by your inserting them in your Journal.

I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

JOHN M. BRYAN.

Northampton, June 8, 1846.

CASE I.—Mrs. W. Langdell, aged 37, of Kingsthorpe, near this town, of lymphatic temperament, and the mother of nine children, was seized with flooding in a moderate degree, in the middle of December, 1845, after some slight exertion, (being then about eight months pregnant,) which passed off in two or three days, with rest and proper attention. It again returned in a very great degree in the night of January 13th, 1846. I saw her at about half-past three a. m., and found her very much exhausted, and, in consultation with my friend, Mr. Birdsall, of this town, I proceeded shortly after to deliver her.

I found upon introducing my hand into the vagina, that the placenta was adhering round a considerable portion of the os uteri. I therefore, completely separated it, and immediately delivered it, upon which all hæmorrhage ceased. I then delivered the child by bringing down the feet; there were some symptoms of life but it soon ceased to exist. The mother was in a very collapsed state for four or five hours, but no more hæmorrhage took place. She had considerable irritative fever for a week or ten days, but recovered tolerably well by February 3rd.

CASE II.—Mrs. Whitworth, aged 37, of very spare habit, and lymphatic temperament, having had eight

children, was seized with flooding on November 16, 1845, and I was called to her at half-past one a.m. She was then in her sixth month of pregnancy. With rest and proper attention it passed off in a few days, and I heard nothing more of her until January 31, 1846, when I was sent for to her, and found her exceedingly exhausted from excessive hæmorrhage. Upon examination, a portion of placenta was plainly distinguishable at the os uteri; I therefore immediately introduced my hand and completely separated the placenta, and delivered it, and, as in the preceding case, the hæmorrhage ceased. I then delivered the child by the feet; but there was more difficulty in this case, owing to the contraction of the uterus, which was quite emptied of the liquor amnii.

Every attention was paid to her in the administration of restoratives, but we failed of success, and she died in about three hours after the delivery. Previous to her delivery she had suffered great anxiety and also privations. The child was dead.

CASE III.—Mrs. Hill, aged 40, having had twelve children and five miscarriages, was seized with flooding in the latter end of April, being then in her eighth month of pregnancy, and for which she was attended by Mr. Gates, of this town, who requested me to see her hastily at three a. m., on May 26, 1846. I found her to have had great hæmorrhage and exceedingly exhausted. On examination per vaginam, the placenta was plainly felt at the os uteri. I therefore immediately introduced my hand into the uterus, forcing through the membranes, and brought down the feet of the child, and delivered it quickly. It was alive and still continues to live. I then, without loss of time, introduced my hand and delivered the placenta, which was a good deal adherent around the os uteri. She was greatly exhausted from loss of blood, but with attention for about two hours subsequently she rallied. I have seen her to day, and there seems every prospect of her recovery, although very much debilitated.

PROVINCIAL

Medical & Surgical Journal.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 1846.

The importance of personal cleanliness in the preservation of health, is too well known and appreciated by medical men, to render any extended remarks on the subject necessary here. We may, however, take occasion, from a petition addressed to both Houses of Parliament, by the physicians and surgeons of Southampton, in favour of a Bill for the establishment of Public Baths and Wash-Houses for the Poor, about to be introduced, to recommend the measure to the notice of the Provincial Association generally. The petition will be found in another column, and the terms in which it is drawn up, sufficiently explain both its object and import. A petition on the same subject was presented to the House of Commons on the 16th of May last, from the Committee for promoting the establishment of Baths and Wash-