

parents about the lantern shows. We started our lecture about 6 p.m. and continued till 8.30 p.m. Gradually the crowd was increasing in numbers and just after the lecture, many women came with their children, and asked about diets and for advice about small ailments. The day after the lecture, one woman came to us with her husband; her history was a very sad one. This is her fourteenth pregnancy and only three children are living, so she wants to have a safe confinement and came to us for advice. Some of the women folk were so interested that they asked us to stay there. It was a moonlight night, when we were coming the moon was quite high up and helped us to see our path. After dinner we were introduced to some school teachers and other Bengali ladies; they were quite interested in our work and asked all about our training. After saying goodnight, when we came to sleep, we found our beds were in the verandah in a very nice place from which we could see the moonlight sky and the paddy fields, as far as the eyes could reach all round was green, green. We feel as if we are in Green Island. We had a very peaceful night. Next morning, after saying goodbye to all, we started our journey. On the way back, our journey was very pleasant, the sun is just peeping from his home and announcing to the whole world his approach, paddy and all other aquatic plants shaking off their night's laziness and making themselves bright and smart in the warm atmosphere, water lilies are opening to enjoy a sun bath. In this atmosphere we felt very happy and cheerful, we gathered lots of water lilies and paddy on coming down. We finished the journey in nice, cool time and before the sun got too bright, we reached Khaurapukur. The beautiful scenery and friendly behaviour of these people will be ever green to us.



THE MIDWIVES' UNION SECTION

Hon. Secretary—Miss S. M. Round (Sister Sallie), All Saints' Dispensary, Panvel, Dr. Colaba, Bombay.

Members are asked to send any helpful notes of cases, and articles for this Section to the Secretary.

HISTORY OF A LITHOPAEDION

By Miss F. FLETCHER, T.N.A.I. No. 388

Halima—Admitted 25-7-1938.

History—Said she was six months pregnant. Had been pregnant for ten months three years ago, but did not give birth. A tumour remained in her abdomen, however.

General Examination—Patient was very thin and looked very ill. Mouth and teeth very dirty; breath offensive. Hæmoglobin 35 per cent.

Auscultation—Heart dilated, mostly to the right.
Lungs crepitations heard at both bases.

Abdom. Examination—Uterus felt a little below the umbilicus; a stony hard tumour present above and to the right side of the uterus, size of six months pregnancy.

Liver and Spleen enlarged.

F. H. S. not heard.

Vaginal Examination—Uterus enlarged to the size of five months pregnancy. Os. closed.

Catheter specimen of Urine—Albumen present. ++

The patient was made a strict bed case, given a diet of milk, barley water and fruit juices. Mouth attended to 4 hourly; a course of 5 Compalons injs, were also given to her. On the 31-7-1938 at 8-50 a.m. labour pain started and at 10-30 a.m. her membranes ruptured and the foetus, membranes and placenta were expelled together. The uterus remained larger than normal and ten minutes later another bag of membranes ruptured, five minutes after another foetus was born, and five minutes after another placenta and membranes were expelled. The twins were still-born; each weighed one pound eight ounces and were males.

The fundus was now six inches above the pubes and the tumour which was felt to the right of the abdomen, was now felt in the centre above the umbilicus. Her lochia and breast conditions were perfectly normal. From the 3-8-1938 she ran a temperature between 100°F. and 103°F. till the 10-9-1938. For her temperature she was given injs. of Quinasol and Quininbihydrochloride grs. 10 I.M. with no appreciative results; for her anæmia injs. of Compalons and Hepatrats. The results from these were satisfactory; hæmoglobin 40 per cent. On the 5-8-1938 she was X-rayed and the diagnoses of Lithopædion was confirmed. Her diet consisted of rice, dhal, vegetables, fruit, egg fillip and milk. From the 25-8-1938 she developed a severe form of diarrhoea having as many as 20 stools per day. Her diet was reduced to Arrowroot and Bengers six ounces four-hourly; her diarrhoea treated with Bismuth, Salol, Bismuth and Soda, etc. Her condition was getting weaker, and if her stools were reduced to 3 or 4 per day her temperature would rise to 103°F. or 103.6°F. and stay up until her stools increased again, when her stools increased to even six per day her temperature would come down a couple of degrees. When her stools were reduced to about five per day, and her daily highest temperature was 100, Dr. Boulton decided to do a Laporotomy on her, as she said when the source of the toxins was removed her temperature and diarrhoea would settle down. Accordingly on the 8-9-1938 under a general anæsthesia she opened out her abdomen and removed a fully formed calcified foetus, which was attached by a long pedicle from the left broad ligament. The foetus was fully formed, weighing three pounds, length 9 inches and breadth eight inches; it was very calcified rendering it impossible to be cut with a knife. The placental mass was soft.

Three days after her operation her temperature was normal, but her diarrhoea persisted, and naturally her condition was very low. From now onwards a desperate fight to save her life waged. I. V. Salines, Bowel Washes; Injs. of Strych: and Digit: Pituitrin: were

given to her as her condition required them. Eldaform Stovarsol, Bismuth, Salol, Kaolin were some of the medicines given her for her diarrhoea. Her diet consisted of Arrowroot, Bengers and the inside of a fruit known as bæ. After a fortnight or so her diarrhoea was controlled to two semi-formed stools daily. Her albuminuria, which persisted all through the present course of her illness was also cured now. Her diet was gradually increased by dhal, milk and rice, fish and an orange: the Arrowroot was omitted. Within a week her stools were quite normal, 2 daily—her normal diet of fish, rice, dhal, vegetables, chappatties, with additionals of a raw egg, bread and butter were taken and relished. On the 29-9-1938 she was wheeled out on to the verandah to sit there on an easy chair; this she thoroughly enjoyed. On the 1-10-1938 she was given her first bath since her admission but this was anything but enjoyed. However her progress was quite good, her former treatment was omitted and she was given an Iron Tonic. When she had gained almost a stone in weight and her hæmaglobin increased to 50 per cent she was discharged on the 22-10-1938 well enough to go home to her village.

We had a difficult task to perform to get her husband to give his signature consenting to her being operated on, as he was quite sure the mortuary would be her next room, and as he was penniless could not see his way to burying her or taking the corpse back to his village. However, we were finally able to overcome his persistency by assuring him that everything that could be done for her would be done, and he was given Rs. 5 for his expenses. When she was cured he was grateful to us for all we had done for her. Both their fares were paid by the Poor Relief Fund; and they were also given Rs. 7 for their expenses, from a member in the Hospital.

'SIAMESE TWINS'

By Mrs. E. J. NATHANIEL, T. N. A. I. No. 412

A female patient named Phundia aged about 38 years, resident of Baresia, Caste Kachi was admitted to Prince of Wales Hospital, Bhopal along with twins on the 8th November 1938. She has had 8 previous children (4 boys and 4 girls) out of which 5 died. The previous deliveries were all normal. This time when the twins were born she was in pains for 24 hours and was subject to night blindness for the last 2 months.

Delivery in both was vertex. First one head came out and immediately the second head and then the trunk. The elbow was fixed in front of the chest and both the hands were on the chin in one case and in the other they were on the neck. There was one common cord and one placenta. Both twins were alive and cried lustily. They were having motions daily and were taking milk by breast. Their bones were small and there were wrinkles on their bodies and there was no other congenital abnormality. Previous children when born were healthy. Weight of the infants was 5 lbs. 6 oz.,