

Total number of cases of all diseases admitted into hospital during same period—males, 1294 ; females, 611 ; total, 1905.

The Mount Gambier hospital therefore shows an enormous relative preponderance of cases of hydatid disease, there being one case of this disease to about 52.9 of all cases admitted.

This supplies statistical evidence of a fact which has often been mentioned to me, viz., that the south-eastern district of South Australia has been, and even now is, a chosen nursery for echinococcus disease. To a great extent this evil seems to have diminished of late years, and for this the public is chiefly indebted to the wise counsels of Dr. Jackson, who has pointed out the danger of drinking surface and swamp water, which probably in this district swarms with the ova of *tænia echinococcus*.

RUPTURES OF THE UTERUS.

By W. V. JAKINS, L.R.C.P., L.M., EDIN. Fell. Obst. Soc. Lond.

In the *Journal* for July I recorded a case of recovery from rupture of the uterus ; I now purpose to give details of other cases. More than half the confinements in this city and district are attended by women, who almost without exception have not received any training in midwifery ; consequently many of the cases to which the medical men here are called are cases of great gravity, requiring instant attention and giving no time for consultations. Amongst the working classes the rule is if confinements are easy to engage a midwife—if difficult, they retain a medical man. Our per centage of serious cases, therefore, is considerably higher than it would be were we originally retained. About six years ago I was called to a woman in her eighth confinement, whom I had attended on the three previous occasions, having to use long forceps and chloroform for antero-posterior contraction of the pelvis with inertia of the uterus. She was a large, tall woman, of lax fibre, about 42 years of age, and complaining of slight labour pains ; the uterus was high in the abdomen, the os open as large as a shilling, and the promontory of the sacrum strongly projecting ; three days afterwards I saw her again, the os was dilated to the size of a crown piece ; the pains were severe, though having but little effect upon the child. She complained of weakness and the heart's impulse was feeble ; I therefore proceeded to use the long forceps under chloroform, but could not get the head past the sacral promontory ; turning was then resorted to ; with great difficulty