

number number of in-patients received during the year, 97. No cases of hydatid disease treated during the last eight years.

THE YOUNG HOSPITAL.

In existence about 20 years. Number of beds, 12. Daily average of in-patients—males, 9; females, 0.5. Total number of in-patients received during the year, 69. The hydatid returns extend over the years 1862 to 1879 inclusive. Dr. Hutchings reports one case of liver hydatid in a female, cured; and adds that "Several other cases are probably hydatid, as I find a large number of abscess of liver and chronic disease recorded, but this is the only case mentioned in the books out of some 1150 who were attended in this hospital during those years." Dr. Hutchings mentions that at the time he supplied this report he had two cases of hydatids in his private practice.

RUPTURE OF THE UTERUS.

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

(Continued.)

The following case occurred in a typically strumous woman, 41 years of age, whom I had attended in two previous confinements and miscarriages. She was the subject of contracted pelvis antero-posterior; the cavity on the right side was larger than the left. It was her ninth confinement, and this time premature at the eighth month. A month before she suffered from diarrhoea, with much bearing down in the vagina; the bladder was externally prolapsed to the size of a fist, and the finger travelled up past it backwards to the membranes and post-vaginal wall; no trace of os could be felt; I therefore plugged the vagina with a handkerchief wrung out of cold water, and ordered a recumbent posture; this relieved her till labour began with slight pains and the waters broke. On the following afternoon I was called to her, and found her at half-past three o'clock with the back of left shoulder presenting; I attempted to turn, but unsuccessfully; by giving chloroform, however, I succeeded in bringing down the right and then the left leg and so delivering her of a very small eight months' child; the heart was beating, but the child did not breathe, all attempts with artificial respiration failed; the cord did not bleed when severed; the child, a female, was born in twenty-five

minutes; slight traction on the cord did not move the placenta, I therefore passed my finger along it anteriorly till I came to where it seemed lightly held by the lower part of the uterus, on attempting gently to press this on one side my two fingers passed as through jelly into the abdomen; the placenta was strongly adherent to the fundus, from which it was peeled with much difficulty; there was no flooding. I administered twenty drops of laudanum, and ordered it to be repeated every hour, and put on a light binder and then left her. She passed a good night and made water freely; she was so well the next day that I made but one visit, but ordered the continuance of the laudanum should there be the slightest pain or inclination of the bowels to act; the hot fomentations ordered at my first visit were continued night and day. On the two following days she gained strength rapidly, so much so that on the last evening the nurse thought that it was unnecessary to obey my orders as to fomentations any longer; about four hours after this nausea set in, followed quickly by clear watery vomiting, for which I prescribed bismuth and hydrocyanic acid; bilious and then coffee grounds vomiting followed, and she died on the following day. A post-mortem examination would probably have revealed softening, with great thinness of the part that gave way; as symptoms of vomiting did not occur till three nights after her delivery, and her daily improvement was so manifest that only single visits were paid, good nursing should have brought her through to complete recovery. The lochial discharge was good; the bladder acted well, and the breasts were not distended with milk, and she took nourishment freely in small quantity frequently, so that I cannot but attribute her death to discontinuance of the treatment. I trust soon to be able to give a detailed account of her confinements, which are interesting in many particulars.

Ballarat, 1st February, 1882.
