

X. *An Account of a Child being taken out of the Abdomen, after having lain there upwards of 16 Years, during which Time the Woman had 4 Children, all born alive; by Starkey Myddleton M. D.*

Gentlemen,

Read Dec. 17. 1747. **T**HE Records of your *Society* furnish us with several Cases of extra-uterine Conceptions; one of which I communicated to you *March* 28. 1745. * nevertheless I could not help flattering myself that this Case also might be worthy your Notice.

IN *April* 1731. Mrs. *Ball*, without *Bishopsgate*, perceived (by the usual Symptoms) that she was pregnant; and in *October* following, being then in the sixth Month of her Pregnancy, she had a Child died in her Lap of Convulsions, the Surprize of which occasion'd a great Fluttering within her, attended with a sensible Motion of the Child, which Motion continued, tho' gradually weaker and weaker, for about 6 or 7 Days, after which she did not perceive it to move any more; but from this time she had constant Pains attending her, which appear'd like Labour-Pains. Her Midwife, for several Days, expected a Miscarriage; but finding herself disappointed, advised her to apply to Dr. *Bamber*, whose known Abilities in the several Branches of Physick, joined to his great Experience and Judgment in
LIII 2 Midwifry,

* See *Philos. Transf.* N^o. 475. p. 336.

Midwifry, made him unquestionably the most proper Person to be consulted, as the Case appear'd so very uncommon in its Circumstances, at the same time that his great Humanity always gave the most free Access to the Poor in their Distresses.

The Doctor (after a proper Examination) finding sufficient Indications of a dead Child, order'd her some forcing Medicines; upon taking which about three times she discharg'd something, which the Women suppos'd to be Part of an After-birth, accompanied with a small Quantity of Water: In consequence of this Discharge her Pains ceased, but without any visible Diminution of her Belly.

After some time she again apply'd herself to the Doctor, who thought it most adviseable to discontinue her Medicines, and leave the Affair intirely to Nature.

In this State she continued for about 20 Months *viz.* to *July* 1733. which was 2 Years and 3 Months from her first Reckoning, she then again apply'd herself to Dr. *Bamber*, acquainti^g him, that she was not yet deliver'd of the Child she so long since came to consult him about, and that her Pains were lately return'd, and daily increased without any Intermission, upon the Doctor's examining her, he thought it proper to send her home immediately, directing her to promote her Pains, by frequently supping some warm Caudle, &c. by the Use of which her Pains became more regular, and the next Day the Doctor made her a Visit, and was informed she had discharg'd two Waters, but nothing more: He then carefully examined her again, and plainly felt a Child through the Integuments of the *Abdomen*, but could not give her any Assistance.

It was about this time that Dr. *Bamber* first acquainted me with the Case, and desired that I would attend her as often as Occasion might require, and that I would acquaint him, if any thing like Labour, or other remarkable Alteration should offer. Accordingly I made her a Visit, and after a proper Examination, was convinc'd of the Certainty of the Doctor's Assertion.

Her Pains now began to abate, and she grew tolerably easy; but about the latter End of *January* 1733-4. she conceived again with Child, and was deliver'd on the 28th of *October* following by Dr. *Bamber*, who sent for me to attend him in her Labour: The Doctor soon deliver'd her of a fine Boy, and after having brought away the *Placenta*, he search'd for the other Child, which he had before felt through the Integuments of the *Abdomen*, but found it was lodg'd in the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, and beyond the Reach of human Art to relieve her. This Fact every one then present was made sensible of.

October 22. 1735. I was sent for to her in her Labour, but before my Arrival she was deliver'd of a Boy; but I brought away the *Placenta*, which gave me an Opportunity of examining for the other Child, and found it in the same Situation as formerly.

October 9. 1738. I was again sent for to her, when in Labour, but she was deliver'd of a Boy before I arrived. Upon examining the Womb, and the State of the *Abdomen*, the Child appear'd just as before, without any Alteration.

June 17, 1741. I was again sent for in her Labour, but found her just deliver'd of a Girl; and
upon

upon examining the Parts, every thing appear'd as before.

October 14. 1747. being greatly emaciated by constant Pains, &c. she was admitted a Patient in *Guy's Hospital*, where she died the 7th of *November* following, after having labour'd under the Distresses and Uneasiness of carrying a dead Child within her, in a manner loose, in the Cavity of the *Abdomen* upwards of 16 Years.

The Day after her Death I open'd her, in the Presence of Dr. *Nesbit*, Dr. *Nichols*, and Dr. *Lawrence*, when the *Uterus*, and the several other Contents of the *Abdomen* appear'd (nearly) in their natural State, but on the right Side within the *Ossium* a Child presented itself, which was attach'd to the *Ilium* and neighbouring Membranes by a Portion of the *Peritonæum*, in which the *Fimbria* and Part of the right *Fallopian* Tube seem'd to lose itself.

The Child seem'd no-ways putrid; but the Integuments were become so callous, and chang'd from their natural State, that the whole seem'd to resemble a cartilaginous Mass, without Form or Distinction: The Legs indeed were distinguishable, though they were much wasted and distorted.

Upon opening the callous Integuments of the Head and Face of the Child, the Bones appear'd perfectly form'd, with a few Spots of tophous Concretions on them.

This Account may serve to convince those who are of Opinion that Boys are conceived on the right Side, and the Girls on the left; as this Woman

man had three Boys, and one Girl, after the *Fallo-
pian* Tube on the right Side had lost its Action.
I am,

Gentlemen,

With great Respect,

Decem. 17.

1747.

Your most obedient and

Most humble Servant,

Starkey Myddleton.

XI. *A Physiological Account of the Case of
Margaret Cutting, who speaks distinctly,
tho' she has lost the Apex and Body of her
Tongue: Addressed to the Royal Society,
by James Parsons M. D. F. R. S.*

Gentlemen,

*Read Dec. 17.
1747.*

AS several of the Members of this
worthy *Society* were somewhat di-
vided in their Opinions concerning what was re-
ported of *Margaret Cutting*, when they were first in-
form'd of her by Mr. *Baker**; it will be necessary
(in order to render her Case the better understood)
to lay before you the following short Particulars,
which

* See these Transf. N^o. 464, Artic. II. p. 143, & seq.