

VI. *A Case of inverted Uterus successfully treated; two Cases of the spontaneous Evolution of the Fœtus; and an Instance of the Cæsarean Operation performed by a Woman on herself. Communicated in a Letter from Mr. Thomas Cawley, late Surgeon of His Majesty's Military Hospital in Jamaica, to Robert Adair, Esq. Inspector General of His Majesty's Military Hospitals, and by him to Dr. Simmons.*

SIR,

I Take the liberty of sending you a case of inverted uterus; two cases of the spontaneous evolution* of the fœtus; and an instance of the Cæsarean operation performed by a woman on herself; which I beg the favour of you to communicate to Dr. Simmons, to be published in the London Medical Journal, if, on examination, they are deemed worthy of a place in that useful collection.

I am, SIR,

With the greatest respect and gratitude,

Your most obedient servant,

THOMAS CAWLEY.

Chester,

Sept. 23, 1785.

* See Vol. V. p. 64 and 301.

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“ Dr. Morton has been in England upwards
 “ of twelve months; but I can tell you the
 “ history of the case you wrote about. — A
 “ negro woman, the property of Mrs. Bland,
 “ was taken in labour at the Ferry, and not
 “ being able (as she termed it) to bear the la-
 “ bour pains, she took a very sharp knife and
 “ made a deep incision, and extracted the
 “ child and placenta herself;—the incision was
 “ so deep as to wound the buttock of the
 “ child;—after she had done this, she cried
 “ out for help, and a negro horse doctor was
 “ sent for from Ellis’s Crawl, which, you
 “ know, is about a mile distant from the
 “ Ferry. As soon as this knowing doctor
 “ came, he sewed up the wound, from one
 “ end to the other, in the same way that we
 “ sew up dead bodies, which soon produced
 “ great pain, tension, &c. Dr. Morton was
 “ then sent for, who saw her as soon as he
 “ could. He immediately cut away all the
 “ stitches, and applied ligatures in a proper
 “ manner, dressed her, and did such things
 “ as he thought proper. The child died the
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XIII. *Farther Account of the Case of a Negro Woman who performed the Cæsarean Operation on Herself.*

SINCE the former account* of this case made its appearance, we have been favoured with some curious additional information concerning it, by Dr. David Morton, a very respectable physician at Kingston, in Jamaica, who is at present in London, and who is mentioned by Dr. Brodbelt, in his letter to Mr. Cawley, as having had the care of the patient.—From this gentleman we learn that the

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Vol. VII. Part I.

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The patient made the incision about eight o'clock at night, and Dr. Morton who saw her about three hours after, found her without pulse, and lying on a mat on the floor. He immediately cut open the stitches, extracted the placenta through the wound, and after carefully removing, from the surface of the intestines, several bits of straw, and dirt, that had been left adhering to them by the midwife, sewed up the wound in a proper manner, and covered it with the usual dressings.

Dr. Morton saw her again at five the next morning, and then the pulse could be distinctly felt at the wrist, and the patient was able to speak. The child died on the fifth day, of tetanus, a disease which proves extremely fatal

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