

With the following well authenticated instance of four children delivered at one birth, we have been favoured by an ingenious gen-

tleman, Mr J. Spencer, from the Island of Dominica, who had himself an opportunity of seeing both the mother and children.

A negro woman, named Benebah, was brought from Africa to Dominica in the year 1782, and soon after was married to one of her own countrymen. By him she had one child. But, this husband dying; soon after that, she married another of her countrymen, with whom she lived for several years without having any children. But at length she became pregnant; and had no other reason for suspecting a plurality of children, excepting an uncommonly large size. On the 22d of February 1789, when, according to her own computation, she had been about nine months pregnant, she was seized with labour-pains; and, by the assistance of a negro woman on the estate to which she belonged, who officiated as midwife, she was delivered of a boy, to appearance healthy, and of the ordinary size. But no placenta coming away, and marks of pregnancy still continuing, an accoucheur was sent for, who, about 24 hours after the birth of her first child, delivered her of three girls, all of

the ordinary size ; after which, he extracted a placenta of an enormous size, which he computed would have weighed about fifteen pounds. After this she had a very good recovery, and was able to walk about by the eighth day. She gave suck to all her four children, also employing, however, with them at the same time a good deal of spoon-meat. Mr Spencer saw them when about five months old. At that time they were all stout children, and, as well as their mother, in perfect health.

When Benebah was delivered of these children, she was about the 30th year of her age. She measured five feet two inches in height. Her husband, who was in his 35th year, was a stout well-made man, about the middle size : and it may perhaps be mentioned as a singularity, that both she and her husband were twins.