

*Case of an Infant apparently Still Born, resuscitated by Artificial Respiration:* By Wm. J. BURGE, M. D., of Atchison, Kansas.

June 9th, 1867, at 1 A. M., I was called to Mrs. H., wt. about thirty, in her first confinement. I found her in the second stage of labor, with pains strong and frequent, and made out a vertex presentation. The case progressed naturally, although

the outlet of the pelvis seemed somewhat contracted, and the head rested long at the perineum.

At 4 A. M., she was safely delivered of a female child, apparently dead. Placing my fingers over its heart I thought I could perceive a feeble pulsation. Spreading a thick blanket on an old trunk-cover which the nurse supported on her knees, I laid the child on it, face downwards, and commenced artificial respiration, *a la* Marshall Hall. I also gently rubbed the chest and spine with whisky. Not until the end of fifteen minutes (I timed it with my watch) was there the least perceptible voluntary breathing. Then came a single faint gasp and all was still again. For an hour longer I continued "the ready method," during which time the child breathed just twelve times, or once in five minutes. Feeling somewhat encouraged, I administered a few drops of whisky and water, put the child in a warm bath for a few moments, wiped it dry, and wrapped it in a warm blanket. It now began to breathe a little more frequently, and as I was obliged to leave, I told the nurse to place the child as near a good fire as she could without burning it, and turn it about in every direction until it was thoroughly warmed; to give it from time to time a few drops of warm, sweetened milk and water, and to renew the artificial respiration should it again begin to breathe less frequently.

At the end of two hours I returned, and found the little creature lying by the side of its mother, looking more life-like, but breathing only once in a minute by the watch. For nearly half an hour I carefully timed it, and there was, almost to a second, just one respiration in a minute. In the evening I called again, and, to my surprise and delight, found my little patient breathing naturally, and looking as bright and strong as almost any child of its age. I learned that it had revived rapidly after my second visit, and after a few doses of milk and water. During the afternoon the father had carried it a mile in his arms and had it baptized by the priest.

Monday morning, June 10.—Child perfectly well. Its bowels have moved. Evening.—Has seemed to be in pain. Nurse has given it catnip tea. Looks well.

Tuesday morning, June 11.—Was restless during the night and nurse says it passed bloody urine. Clothes look slightly tinged with blood. No hemorrhage from cord. Nurses well. At 3 P. M., sank and died in a few moments. I could not get the parents' consent for a post-mortem. My impression is, the child might have lived under more favorable surroundings. The weather was intensely hot, and there was a large cooking stove in full blast within two feet of the bed where the mother and child lay.