

**ON COMBINED  
EXTERNAL AND  
INTERNAL VERSION**

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On combined external and internal version by J. Braxton Hicks

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**J. BRAXTON HICKS**

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COMBINED EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL  
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ON

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VERSION.

BY

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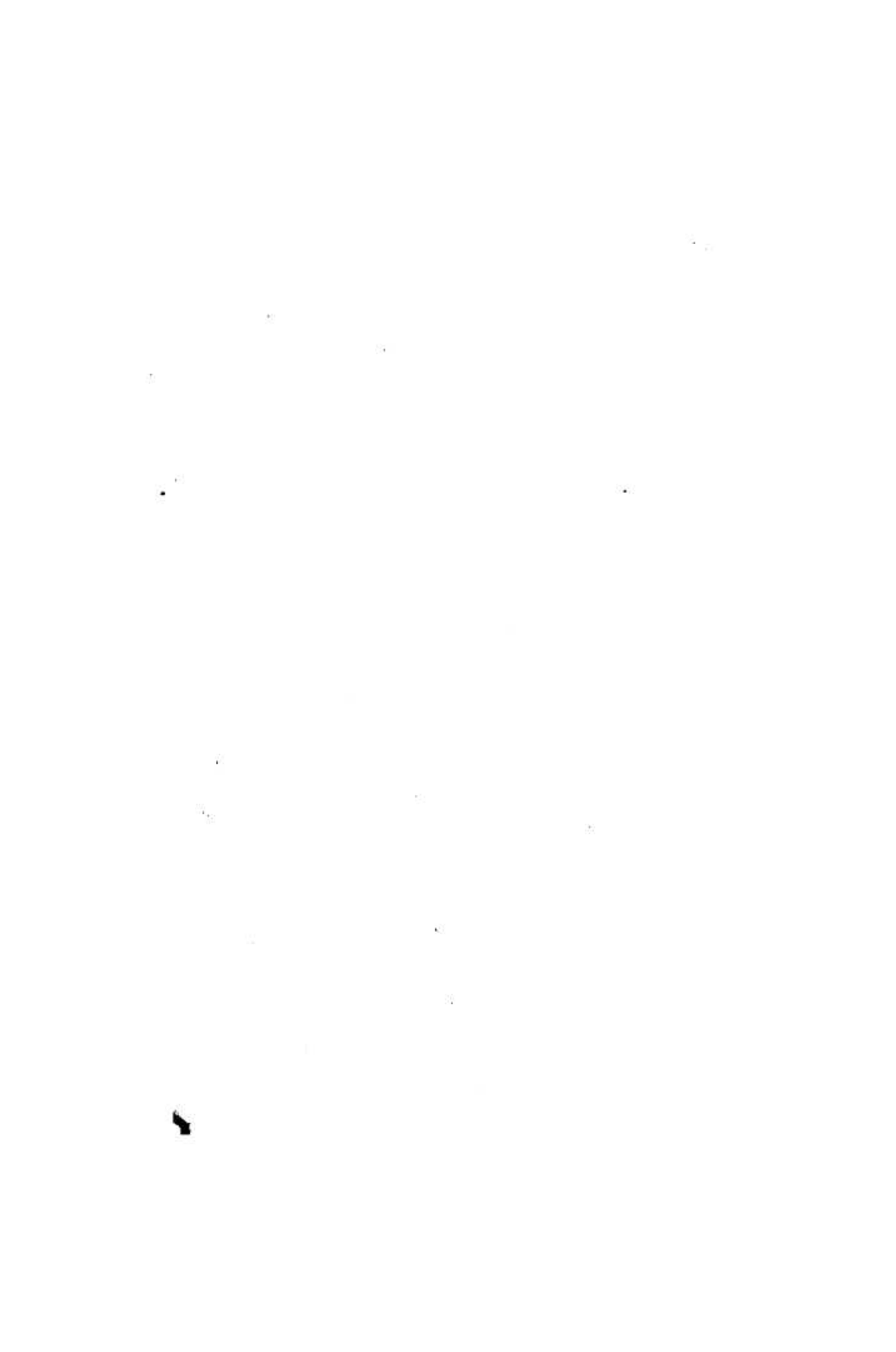
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## PREFACE.

THE subject of the present memoir was originally brought forward in the 'Lancet,' in 1860, and before the Obstetrical Society of London, in 1863; and though it is partly based upon the latter communication, yet a not inconsiderable part has been re-written, new cases in illustration added, and the whole matter brought up to the present time. It has been the endeavour of the author to make it as free as possible from unnecessary remarks, leaving the details usual in ordinary practice to be supplied by the experience of the reader, and any unusual circumstance, which might possibly occur in a case, to be combated by the good sense of the attendant upon the principles here laid down.





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CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

THE relative preference of the use of the hands to that of instruments in facilitating or accomplishing delivery has varied much at different epochs of the obstetric art. From all antiquity, till the introduction of the vectis in the sixteenth, and of the forceps in the early part of the seventeenth century, the only mode, when the natural powers failed, of delivering a live child presenting by vertex was by the operation of turning, the alternative in case of failure being the opening or breaking up of the head of the fœtus. As this latter practice was considered very repugnant to the feelings of all concerned it was avoided as much as possible (frequently for the safety of the mother till too late), and turning was much more often resorted to than it has been since. And there can be no doubt, from recent researches of Dr. Simpson and others, confirmed by my own experience in a certain group of cases, and that not an inconsiderable one, that is, where there is not too great a discordance between the fœtal head and the maternal