the breasts with the breast pump; on no account allow them to "wedge," and feed the infant with the breast milk through the reversed nipple shield, which is preferable to a spoon.

The cough then is the beginning of baby's bronchial troubles, and it is at this point that the danger of the disease is seriously increased, and its scientific treatment sorely hindered, if not altogether nullified, by two common but regretable errors on the part of mothers and nurses: 1st, unwise delay in obtaining medical aid; 2nd, still more unwise "tampering" with the disease itself, as my readers can understand from the physiological facts I have so recently touched upon. We will discuss first the last-mentioned fallacy—unwise interference, which usually manifests itself in the form of topical applications and medicinal (?) remedies, which we will briefly follow out as they affect a tender little life of some three or four weeks old! With respect to the first-mentioned-baby has a " wheezing" on the chest, and a slight but teasing cough; the new developments are met with the time-honoured linseed meal poultice, applied in the worst possible way—on the poor little labouring chest-and its respiratory troubles increased thereby. Plaisters are also resorted to, those made with old tallow enjoying a wide popularity, nay, even mustard the writer has known used. "Rubbing" is also called into requisition, such soothing (!) substances as goose oil and handy "horse oils," or any embrocation that may be about, often strong enough for a child, applied over the infant's chest. The little patient is also oppressed with "wraps"—heavy shawls, to wit-to keep him warm and pin down his arms, and thus a present sense of suffocation to his other miseries.

These somewhat drastic measures, are also supplemented by rash medication. "Cough stuffs," or Paregoric—that "drug of woe" to early infancy—are fetched from the chemist's shops, and more often than not administered with a daring disregard to quantities, in order to "cure" the cough—and if I add to kill the baby, I shall not be wholly wrong; intervals also being dependent upon the frequency of the coughing fits. Now, I do not assert that any of the things just mentioned are bad per se, but I do say that the unwise, reckless, and oftentimes quite unnecessary, use of these and similar remedies are almost as dangerous to infant life as the disease itself, and that mothers and nurses should bear that possibility in mind, hence I have dwelt upon them.

(To be continued.)

WORTH KNOWING.—That Tolphite is the only dusting powder exclusively manufactured for the Nursery. Dr. Andrew Wilson, F.R.S., says: "All the conditions which Hygiene recognises as important and essential in such a powder are represented in Tolphite; it is invaluable for infants in preventing excoriation and chafing." Mrs. Hilton says her Nurses are charmed with it. Post free, for eight or fifteen stamps.—Dodd Brothers, Stamford Hill, London.

## Mursina Echoes.

\*\*\* All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.



THE QUEEN will send to the Chicago Exhibition a water-colour drawing of her Indian secretary, a picture of "Spot" (her favourite fox terrier), and various sketches of Balmoral done with her own hands, some of which come from the walls of the private dining-room of the Castle. Princess Louise and Princess Beatrrice also send pictures. Princess

CHRISTIAN sends some very fine specimens of needlework, executed with the most consummate skill and ingenuity. There will also be a *sachet*, copied from a piece of crape, worked by the QUEEN, which was in a prominent place at the Guelph Exhibition of not long ago.

"OUR PRINCESS," I hear, has also contributed specimens of her handiworks to the Nursing section.

THROUGH the courtesy of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, I am enabled to give in full the prospectus of the section for the forthcoming Congress at Chicago, which includes Nursing.

"ONE of the series of International Congresses to be held in Chicago in 1893 is to be devoted to the subjects of Charities, Correction and Philanthropy, and the Fourth Section of this is to consider all matters relating to the Hospital Care of the Sick, The Training of Nurses, Dispensary Work, and First Aid to the Injured. The Committee of Organization of the Congress has appointed Dr. JOHN S. BILLINGS, Surgeon U. S. Army, as Chairman of this Section, and Dr. HENRY M. HURD, Superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, as its Secretary, and has authorised and requested them, to complete its organization, to extend invitations and to prepare a programme for its work. Miss Isabel A. Hampton, Superintendent of the Training School for Nurses of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, has been appointed Chairman of that part of the work of the Section which relates to the Training of Nurses.

This Section will hold five sectional meetings of about two hours each, commencing June 12th,

FUNERALS.—Earth to Earth Burials, Cremations, and Statuary. For high-class Work, the LÖNDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY, 188, Westminster-bridge-road, and 2, Larcaster-place, Strand. — Telegrams "Tenebratio, London."

previous page next page