

is in active practice. It would be interesting to learn how the other children, to whom she has been in the habit of administering gruel directly after their birth, fared. The case is somewhat novel because, although the incompetence of midwives is frequently exhibited, in the case of the mothers they have, as a rule, sufficient knowledge or sufficient common sense to refrain from experiments upon the baby's dietary.

OLD FASHIONS.

A VERY interesting article has recently been published by a well known French physician upon old fashioned remedies, such as bloodletting, blisters and emetics. The author shows that these measures have fallen into disuse to a degree which is much to be regretted. As regards bleeding, all practical physicians nowadays recognize that in cases in which the action of the heart, especially of the right side, is seriously embarrassed, the removal of even small quantities of blood may restore its power by diminishing the amount, and therefore the difficulty, of its work. But the article in question gives evidence to prove that in kidney, and lung, as well as in heart, diseases, the removal of some blood often enables these organs to recover their powers, as no drug, or any other form of treatment, is known to do. And in some cases of infection, it is shown that, by bloodletting, the tissues appear to become more destructive to bacteria. With regard to emetics, it is pointed out that they not only act rapidly and effectively in the case of children suffering from dangerous bronchitis by clearing the bronchial tubes of their retained mucus, but that they also cause deeper respirations, and, therefore, the passage of a larger amount of oxygen into the lungs. The author in question also points out that blisters, in certain conditions, are of great value, especially in relieving deep-seated pain and congestion. In fact, the whole article proves that our grandfathers, despite their want of instruments of precision, and, therefore, lessened powers of accurate diagnosis, were still uncommonly shrewd practitioners, and that, whether they were always correct or not concerning the names and natures of diseases, they were, at any rate, by no means unsuccessful in relieving or curing them.

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A Guarantee of Purity.

Queen's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee formed for the purpose of dealing with the national subscription for nursing the sick poor in their own homes, in connection with the Queen's Jubilee Institute, was held last week at Grosvenor House, the chair being taken by Lord Reay in the unavoidable absence of the Duke of Westminster.

It was stated in the report that the total amount subscribed in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee to the Queen's Institute for Nurses was about £136,000. Of this, £41,545 11s. 5d. had actually passed through the hands of the committee up to March 1st, 1898, and this amount only was dealt with in the report. This sum has been apportioned as follows:—

Queen's Institute for England and Wales	£29,281	19	4
Queen's Institute for Scotland ...	9,134	5	10½
Handed back direct to various localities	1,785	3	7
Expenses	1,344	2	7½
	<u>£41,545</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>

This did not represent half the money collected, the total sum of which was made up in the following way:—

Amount received by Central Appeal Committee ...	£41,545	11	5
Further amount to come from Scotland	2,200	0	0
Mr. Henry Tate (paid to Institute direct)	5,000	0	0
Amount collected in Ireland ...	19,738	17	0
Amount collected locally for local branches	67,403	14	2
	<u>£135,888</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

In addition, the returns from the provinces showed that there had been collected for local nursing associations, which were not at present affiliated with the Queen's Institute, but probably would be in the near future, the amount of £18,894 18s. 2d. All the money which had been collected in Scotland and Ireland respectively, would be spent in those countries.

The committee at present did not intend to dissolve as they believed that there were possibilities of permanent usefulness to the Queen's Institute before them if they held together. It was also stated that certain alterations were being made in the Royal Charter, under which the work of the Queen's Nurses was carried on, and the committee hoped when these alterations had been carried out, in conjunction with the council of the institute,

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