

pressed well against the nipple, the infant cannot suck properly, and hence two things happen—the milk runs down the corners of the mouth instead of the throat, and baby derives so little benefit from his suctional efforts that his poor little jaws are wearied out before his hunger is satisfied; and it is no exaggeration to say that he may starve in the midst of plenty! and it is evidently a case of baby to the rescue! And this timely help simply consists in liberating the tongue by cutting through or breaking the edge of the frænum. A distinguished physician favoured the latter mode of procedure, and did it by a dexterous jerk of the chin. The more usual plan is to cut through the edge of the frænum with a pair of scissors; they should be short in the blades, *rounded* at the ends, and rather large in the bow. You open baby's mouth, raise the tongue with the two forefingers of the left hand, and with the right place the scissors on the lower gum, and well into the frænum, and cut down to about the eighth of an inch. The writer prefers to make her patient a collaborateur in the process by inducing him to raise his voice and his tongue as far as he can at the same time, and hence we know the whole extent of his powers in that direction, and get the scissors well on to the floor of the mouth. Simple as this operation may read, it is not unaccompanied by danger, because in careless or ignorant hands, the lingual arteries or veins may be wounded, and serious, if not fatal, hæmorrhage ensue; and these remarks hold good in cases of *unnecessary* interference and the using of ordinary or *sharp-pointed* scissors—remember always to use a pair of *round-ended* scissors such as I have just described to you. A neglected case of frænum linguæ will lead to a permanent lisp. And the same may be said of a *short* tongue, and our frænum scissors are no help to us here!

In conclusion, we will say a few words about Nævi Materni, familiarly known as "Mother's Marks," so frequently seen in the newly-born. They may be defined as cutaneous spots affecting and disfiguring various parts of the body; there are a number of different sorts of nævi, but, briefly speaking, we may divide them into two groups, the vascular and the pigmentary; the latter include moles and dark coloured patches of different sizes and configurations, and these again may be smooth or hairy, and these last, when found on the back or shoulders of the infant, are called (vox populi) "monkey marks"; or when smaller in size, somewhat oblong in form, and covered with fine soft hairs, a "mouse," and maternally ascribed to "frights" from these animals when "carrying." Without disputing the popular nosology we may safely affirm that these undesirable moles and "patches" are unimportant as regards the health of the infant, they are never effaced, nor do they diminish in size.

(To be concluded.)

Nursing Echoes.

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



THE Cholera invasion, and the accounts of its progress in different parts of the world, monopolise a large share of the attention of the medical and lay press, and many interesting facts and precautions against the dreaded enemy are being published. Somewhat out of the ordinary are the statements in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, that, in one respect, at least, Austria is better prepared to fight against cholera than any other country. It has already in full working order an arrangement for supplying with suitable food any district within 200 miles of Vienna in which the epidemic may appear. This is the work of Dr. Kühn, the founder of the peoples' kitchens, who has been devoting himself for years to organizing a regular commissariat for the poor of Vienna. The Doctor has unbounded faith in wholesome food as a means of warding off the attacks of cholera. In conjunction with the Austrian Ladies' Patriotic Society, therefore, he has arranged to open temporary restaurants in all districts in which there shall be an outbreak of the disease. In these restaurants, well-cooked, nutritive food will be sold at cost price to those who can afford to pay for it, and given away to those who cannot. Everything, with the exception of tea and coffee, will be cooked in Vienna in the huge peoples' kitchens, and thence transported to the locality where it is needed in airtight vessels. These are an invention of Dr. Kühn's, and a most ingenious one. They are made of metal, and fit into wooden cases, which are lined with thick felt. Soup or any other kind of food, can be kept hot in them for twenty-four hours.

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The advantage of centralizing the cooking is, that it enables a restaurant to be opened at a few hours' notice in any district where it shall be judged necessary to start one. All that will have to be done is to engage a large room, buy knives, forks, etc., and form a ladies' committee to superintend the serving out of the dinners. The organization of the food supply will be entirely in the hands of Dr. Kühn, who, through his officials, will deliver at the restaurant every day whatever food may be required.

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