

in a closed vessel for eight hours in three pints of water, by which time the fluid had been reduced to one pint. This was poured off without being strained, and half a pint of it was given in every twenty-four hours, the fluid being well shaken up before each dose was administered.

UMBILICAL ENVELOPES.

WE recently called attention to the alarming mortality amongst infants in consequence of blood poisoning from infection of the umbilical cord, and the wonderful improvement and reduction of the mortality which followed common-sense antiseptic treatment of the stump. The matter is one of very great importance, for it has been conclusively shown that a large number of infants die every year from tetanus in consequence of such disease. A most valuable appliance, therefore, which has just been brought to our notice, deserves the careful attention of all obstetric practitioners and Nurses. It consists of a double fold of antiseptic lint, with a hole in the centre through which the cord is passed, and then tucked through slits at the edge of the envelope, the rest of which is then folded over it. By this means the cord, without any further attention, is maintained clean and dry until it falls off in the ordinary course. The simplicity and practical usefulness of the invention is only equalled by its cheapness, because the envelopes are sold in packets of one dozen for a shilling. We have, therefore, no hesitation in saying that no obstetric Nurse in future can regard her outfit as complete unless it includes a packet of these valuable little appliances. They can be obtained from any chemist, or direct from the manufacturers, Messrs. Reynolds & Branson, of Leeds.

NERVOUS VOMITING.

THIS is a well-recognised affection, and occurs not only amongst so-called hysterical patients, but also in both men and women suffering from certain diseases of the nervous system, while it is generally accepted that the vomiting of pregnancy is largely, if not entirely, due to reflex nerve disturbance of the stomach. It has, therefore, been suggested that in all such cases electricity should be used; this has been carried out very extensively in France, and a recent report by well-known Parisian physicians, on the results which have been thereby obtained, proves that the daily application of a mild galvanic current to the stomach and the pneumogastric nerves in the neck, has been followed by cure even in extreme cases which had proved rebellious to every other form of treatment.

Reflections

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.



THE German Emperor and Empress have decided to establish an asylum for the aged and infirm in the district of Courcelles with a foundation fund of 60,000 marks.

On Friday H.R.H. Princess Christian visited the headquarters of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade in Southwark Bridge Road, and presented the certificates of proficiency in First Aid to the Injured, gained by about 234 officers and men of the Brigade. The Princess made an inspection of the headquarters, where the men went through their drill.

At a special meeting of the Council of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, held at the Mansion House on the 7th, it was unanimously resolved:—"That the grateful thanks of the Council be conveyed to the Press on behalf of the medical charities of London for the special support they have so cordially rendered to the effort to raise the Hospital Sunday Fund collections to the magnificent and unprecedented total which has been reached this year, and that a copy of this resolution, signed by the Lord Mayor, be forwarded by the Secretary to the editor of each of the newspapers whose advocacy has been so fruitful in its results."

Owing to a printer's error, one of the morning papers in a leading article, was made to say that the Parish Councils throughout the country should be made responsible for all bad and neglected cases of fever. Next morning the explanation was given that the word "fences" should have been used instead of fevers, which somewhat altered the case.

The Treasurer of Guy's Hospital has received a donation of £1,000 from Mr. Charles Morrison for the use of the Hospital.

The annual ball in aid of the funds of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, will take place at the Holborn Town Hall on Thursday, December 5th, under distinguished patronage. The arrangements are again being carried out by a committee of residents in the immediate district of the Hospital. As a result of the preceding balls substantial donations have been handed to the Institution.

An alarming outbreak of diphtheria has occurred at Strood. The sanitary officers have taken every precaution to prevent the extension of the malady, but notwithstanding all their efforts the cases are multiplied daily. The Isolation Hospital is crowded with patients, but that institution is also used by Chatham. There have been several deaths. The wife of an artisan contracted the disease from her children, and expired just as her two daughters were about to be removed to the Hospital. Two of her family have since died. The daughter of a Chatham surgeon has also fallen a victim to diphtheria. The sanitary authorities have issued instructions that in fatal cases of diphtheria the bodies are to be promptly placed in coffins, and screwed down within an hour. In the event of the relatives objecting, the officers are to remove the bodies to the public mortuary.

The Shilling Fund got up by the *Kentish Express* on behalf of the Ashford Cottage Hospital had reached on Oct. 30th the gratifying sum of 3,630 shillings. No doubt this successful method of collection will soon be adopted in favour of other Hospitals.

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