

she did not know of what it was composed.

Placenta prævia she knew nothing about.

Post-partum hæmorrhage, if moderate, was rather beneficial than otherwise, as it ensured the blood 'not getting to the head.' (This latter condition appears to be the bogey of Chinese midwifery!) If more severe the abdomen should be rubbed vigorously.

Foul lochia and fever, coming on a few days after confinement should be treated with medicine, and are generally due to women not sitting up at once after confinement. The midwife ceased her attendance on the third day, and knew nothing of what happened afterwards!

Swollen legs and 'fits' in connection with pregnancy should be treated with Chinese medicine, and 'do not matter.' Such cases are never fatal!

A child should be suckled by the mother for three or four years. This makes it very strong! But it should receive additional nourishment after the age of one year.

Twin pregnancies were very rare; the midwife had never met with a case of triplets.

The duration of pregnancy is nine lunar months and ten days.

Female infanticide, which is not illegal, is common among the poorer classes. It is performed by the parents, the favourite method being to put the luckless infant in a jar and close the lid.

The fees for confinements are not large, varying from one to five dollars.

The old lady had often inserted needles into swellings in the abdomen, letting out a great deal of 'water of different colours,' and invariably curing the patient.

We parted the best of friends. The midwife drank a cup of tea with me, and shook hands vigorously with herself, and I noticed that, in spite of her intimate acquaintance with the 'seventy-two diseases,' she procured from the officious Boxer a bottle of the 'indigestion mixture' (our old friend the Bart.'s 'Haust. Gent. cum Rheo'); but then, perhaps, her own complaint was 'shortness of breath.'

American Nursing World.

An Association of Graduate Nurses has been formed in Illinois, with the object of securing State recognition for trained nurses, in the same way that physicians and pharmacists are legalized. A Bill, embodying this principle, is being prepared for presentation at the next session of the Illinois legislature. The Association is sending six delegates to Buffalo next week.

Legal Matters.

DOCTORS DIFFER.

At Richmond Police Court Mr. and Mrs. Weston, proprietors of the Blenheim House Medical and Nursing Institute, Kew Road, were, last week, summoned by the Lunacy Commissioners for receiving, boarding, and lodging three lunatics in an unlicensed home. The summonses, with regard to one case, were subsequently withdrawn. Mr. Guy Stephenson appeared on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and Mr. Robinson defended.

Mr. Stephenson, in opening, said that the case for the prosecution was that the defendant kept and received payment for three persons, who were certifiable lunatics. Dr. Gordon Hill had visited the defendant's premises by order of the Lord Chancellor, and found there insane patients. He wished to state at this stage that Mrs. Weston took a much more active part in the management of the home than her husband, and also that every information had been given to the doctor by Mrs. Weston, and there was not the slightest intention of ill-treatment, but a serious breach of the Lunacy Act had been committed, and each of three persons named by him were certifiable lunatics. The agent who let Blenheim House to Mrs. Weston gave evidence that a clause in the agreement, stating that the house should be used as a surgical and medical home, and that all cases of a mental kind should be strictly forbidden, was inserted by the express desire of Mrs. Weston. He had visited the house several times, and had always found it well conducted.

Dr. Gordon Hill, who gave evidence as to the mental condition of the patients concerned, said that on the occasion of his visit to Blenheim House he went over the home, which appeared to be properly managed. Two of the patients concerned were suffering from general paralysis. General paralysis was the most marked form of insanity, and persons suffering from it must be lunatics, inasmuch as it was mental paralysis.

Dr. Henry Rayner, physician for mental disorders at St. Thomas' Hospital, said that he had had thirty years experience in the treatment of mental disorders, and visited Blenheim House under an order from the Lord Chancellor. His evidence agreed in a measure with that of Dr. Hill. Cross-examined, he said: Doctors differed as to the degree of general paralysis at which a case was certifiable. It was quite possible for them to honestly differ. Everything in the home was perfectly done. It was possible that in one case the patient was suffering from local paralysis when he came to the home, and that the brain trouble came on afterwards.

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