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Dr. Jellet, in *A Short Practice of Midwifery for Nurses*, gives the following advice, which is equally useful to midwives:

#### EXCORIATION.

If the infant's buttocks are found to be "scalded," i.e., inflamed and excoriated, they must be carefully sponged with plain water after each motion, dried with a soft towel, and dusted with Fuller's earth.

Should the skin be cracked or broken, a little oxide of zinc ointment, or possibly a bread poultice must be applied, and at all times it is the nurse's duty to make sure the diapers are not washed with soda, chloride of lime, or anything likely to cause irritation of the skin. Scalding is most frequently associated with diarrhoea.

*Pupil Midwife.*—A spina bifida is a congenital malformation of the vertebral canal, with protrusion of some of its contents in the form of a fluid tumour. It is due to an arrest of development of the laminae of the vertebrae.

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