

The Midwife.

My Flat Baby.

This summer I had a "Flat" baby. I do not mean that he was flat, quite the contrary; he was a fat, round little man. But he lived in a flat, and one of the drawbacks to a flat is that there is no drying ground, and if all the washing is sent out a baby is likely to prove an expensive treasure, so the only alternative is to have very little washing to do. I have had babies who wore only a flannel binder, a napkin, and a nightgown, but that seems rather scanty. My flat baby wore a flannel binder, a woven woollen vest with long sleeves, a Turkish towelling napkin, a flannel square over that, and lastly a nun's veiling nightdress made 24 ins. long, with a yoke, and plain straight sleeves drawn in at the wrist with narrow ribbon. His whole wardrobe consisted of 3 vests, 6 flannel squares, 4 binders, 6 gowns, 24 Turkish napkins. The first merit of such an outfit was its small cost, the second the small amount of time spent in making, the binders being simply torn and left with raw edges, the vests are bought ready made, the napkins only require overcasting, the flannel squares were hemmed with a sewing machine. The little gowns took the longest, for they had fancy stitching on the yokes and round the hem, which was 3 inches deep. But the greatest merit of such a wardrobe is the ease with which it can be washed, even in a flat, by quite an amateur laundress. The ordinary cotton gowns will cost for washing from 3d. to 1s. 6d. each. My flat baby did not cost anything, beyond the price of the soap with which his things were washed. If he had worn the ordinary embroidered or be-laced gowns they must have been sent to a laundry, as they never look nice if not properly washed, and very carefully ironed. Then as to comfort, my flat baby was as good as a baby could be, and he never had even the slightest chill. He was from his earliest days a great kicker, I feel sure the ordinary long clothes would have worried him, and prevented him from taking the amount of exercise he thought necessary.

When he attained the great age of 8 weeks, he discarded flannel squares and wore flannel petticoats, and woven woollen belts took the place of the flannel binder. Another point in favour of this method of dressing is that he is still wearing, with the two exceptions above mentioned, his first outfit, although he is now nearly five months old, and nowadays very few babies wear their first clothes for more than three months, many not even so long. Of

course, I would not advise this manner of dressing for a rich baby for laundresses must live and so must the makers of fine baby clothes.

The baby may not be so comfortable in his fine clothes, but he can get a little satisfaction from the knowledge that he or rather his garments are much admired by all his lady friends and relations. True, he may hear the mere male person make rude remarks about the length of his clothes, and the shortness of himself, but he need not listen; and after all it may only be envy because the man wears such ugly things.

M. H.

The Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.

PRESENTATION TO DR. HASTINGS TWEEDY.

Miss Ramsden, the Lady Superintendent and Nursing Staff of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, recently entertained at tea a number of guests prior to a presentation of plate to Dr. Hastings Tweedy, the retiring Master, on behalf of many past and present nurses, by Dr. James Little. They were received by Miss Ramsden and the Master.

Mr. C. L. Matheson, K.C., who presided, paid a warm tribute to Dr. Tweedy's work during his seven years' tenure of office, and Dr. Little, who made the presentation, said he appeared for 210 clients, some of whom were spreading the reputation of the hospital in distant parts of India. He detailed the work done by Dr. Tweedy, and on behalf of the nurses thanked him for the painstaking instruction he had given, and the interest he had taken in their being well and comfortably housed. He had also pursued a most rigorous system of antiseptics, and the diseases which has formerly attacked nurses, sometimes involving permanent ill-health, were now almost a thing of the past. Dr. Tweedy had splendidly and worthily performed the office of Master of the Rotunda.

Dr. Little, on behalf of past and present members of the nursing staff, then presented Dr. Tweedy with a beautiful silver tray of Celtic design, octagonal in shape, an album containing the names of the subscribers, and a watch for Mrs. Tweedy.

"THAT HATED BOARD."

Dr. Tweedy, who was loudly cheered, warmly thanked the donors on Mrs. Tweedy's behalf, and his own. He also detailed the improvements made by the Governors during his term of office. In conclusion, Dr. Tweedy re-

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