

They wore short, tight petticoats, which interested me very much. I cannot imagine why they endured them. Petticoats are a nuisance anyway, but tight ones!!!

I did not mean to write about grown-ups, though, but about babies. The other day I heard someone say: "The human race is deteriorating." (Nice word that; I hope my secretary has spelt it rightly.) I am not surprised to hear that it has deteriorated, for this reason: If you will go out on any fine day, and especially in the parks, you will see many small babies being carried out, and nearly all of those babies are carried with their faces staring straight up at the sky. I do not think there are many grown-ups who would like to spend from one to four hours sky-gazing on a sunny day. They would have a headache, or something worse, and yet these poor little babies have to put up with it. Is it any wonder that they deteriorate? It is a marvel they don't die of it, or if they live that they don't spend the rest of their days in an asylum for the insane.

There are, I am told, many societies for the protection of dogs and cats, and if anyone ill-treats them they may be punished. Could not someone start a society for the protection of babies? I would be the first subscriber. I believe I have sixpence of my own somewhere. I'll get someone to look for it. I feel so sorry for the little babies. I am sure the sun gives them a headache and makes them feel sick. I never had a headache in my life, but I am sure it must be very bad. I have been sick once or twice, but that is soon over. A headache, I am given to understand, is a lasting affair.

Bath time, so good-bye.

TINY TIM.

The Central Midwives Board.

A Special Meeting of the Central Midwives' Board was held at the Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, on Thursday, March 30th, to consider the charges alleged against 18 certified midwives, with the following results:—

STRUCK OF THE ROLL, AND CERTIFICATE CANCELLED.

Annie Birchley (No. 13049), Lucy Bowpitt (No. 4183), Emma Susanna Down (No. 18991, L.O.S. certificate), Eliza Eagle (No. 13748), Emma Goodwin (No. 7520), Alice Hamson (No. 17325), Sarah Ann Hankins (No. 11556), Annie Ireland (No. 4407), Mary Lee (No. 15064), Fanny Mason (No. 3858), Elizabeth Ann Shaw (No. 21185), Ann Whittaker (No. 3747), Maria Wigley (No. 12359)—thirteen in all.

SEVERELY CENSURED.

Sarah Johnson (No. 14181), Fanny Royle (No. 14433). A report is to be asked for from the Local Supervising Authorities in three months' time.

CENSURED.

Mary Jane Cousins (No. 4924), Elizabeth Williams (No. 19741, L.O.S. certificate). In the case of Mrs. Williams a report is to be asked for from the Local Supervising Authority in three months' time.

SENTENCE POSTPONED.

In the case of Mary Morrall (No. 20249), the Board found the charges against her proved, but postponed sentence until after the next Penal Board after three months have elapsed.

CASES ADJOURNED FOR JUDGMENT.

In four cases adjourned for judgment on the report of the Local Supervising Authority, and in two of these for a police report also, no further action was taken. In the fifth case, Rebecca Taylor (No. 14624) was struck off the Roll and her certificate cancelled.

APPLICATIONS FOR RESTORATION OF NAME TO THE ROLL.

The applications of three midwives for the restoration of their names to the Roll were refused.

THE CHARGES.

The charges were for the most part of the usual character, with the exception of those against Emma Susanna Down, who was charged (1) with habitually employing an uncertified person, Mrs. Ann Pratt, as her substitute; (2) with habitually aiding and abetting the said Mrs. Pratt to contravene the provision of Section 1 (2) of the Midwives Act, by colourably and falsely pretending that the cases attended by Mrs. Pratt were cases undertaken and conducted by her; (3) that five of such cases (names given) were falsely entered in her Register as having been conducted and attended by her; and (4) that she falsely notified the Medical Officer of Health for Kensington of the occurrence of the births in the above cases, whereas in no case had she been in attendance at the birth.

It was stated in evidence that the midwife had admitted to the inspector that she had entered these cases in her register, and the inspector alleged that she sold her signature for half a crown. She entered up cases as very satisfactory, very good, etc., although she had never seen them. The Board, as we have reported, struck her off the Roll.

POUND DAY AT THE BRITISH LYING-IN HOSPITAL

On Friday the 24th March a most enjoyable and successful Pound Day was held at this Hospital by the Ladies' Committee, who most kindly provided an excellent tea for all contributors sufficiently interested to pay the Institution a visit on the occasion. The result was the collection of £66 in money and 1,890 lbs. in stores—a very welcome addition to the funds for special purposes and the commissariat department.

THE INFANTS' HOSPITAL.

The Report of the Committee of Management of the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, S.W., presented last week to the Governors and subscribers, records that open-air wards have been added to the hospital by the generosity of Mr. Robert Mond, and babies for whom the treatment is suitable can now spend all day in the open air during the warm weather.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)