

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen Maternity Hospital.—J. H. W. McLean.
Glasgow Maternity Hospital.—A. Weir.
Glasgow, Stobhill Hospital.—M. Eggie.

IRELAND.

Belfast Incorporated Maternity Hospital.—F. Bradford, S. J. Lewis.
Curragh Camp Military Families' Hospital.—K. McDonnell.
Dublin, National Maternity Hospital.—T. McClain.
Dublin, Rotunda Hospital.—M. Armstrong, A. I. Griffin, E. Thomas, M. Wheelhouse, G. B. Whitaker
Lurgan Workhouse Infirmary.—R. O'Hanlon, I. C. Paterson.

PRIVATE TUITION.

F. Baker, K. M. Bannister, A. Bingle, M. I. Britain, L. Butler, E. Cadman, S. A. Cresswell, E. M. Eaves, M. M. Faircloth, A. E. Goddard, E. A. Golding, B. Guest, J. G nder d, F. Hagger, M. A. Harrington, J. A. Holland, R. Howells, W. Howells, L. L. Hulse, B. V. Humphries, E. Johnson, E. B. Kelley, W. E. Matheson, R. E. Miles, I. Murray, R. A. Nash, M. T. O'Neill, R. P. Owen, L. B. Peers, G. Powys-Jones, D. E. Quarterman, S. Shoplind, B. C. Street, J. Tremble, N. E. Wakely, R. Warters, N. M. Willies.

PRIVATE TUITION AND INSTITUTIONS.

Kensington Union Infirmary.—M. J. Ahern, L. C. L. Bankes, E. French, M. D. Higgs, A. Wilson.
University College Hospital.—A. Birrell.
General Lying-in Hospital.—N. Beckett, H. Canty, M. C. Cassels, C. J. Faulder, M. Gregory.
London Hospital.—I. Harris.
New Hospital for Women.—E. H. G. Hickman.
Belfast Union Maternity Hospital.—A. Nicholl.
Woolwich Military Families' Hospital.—J. Rust.

PENAL BOARD.

In the case at the recent Penal Board of the C.M.B. of Mrs. Cracknell, the principal charge was that the case being one of rupture of the uterus and tear of the cervix uteri, she did not advise medical help being sought—Mrs. Cracknell was not engaged for this case, but Mrs. Patrick who could not attend, and therefore the case was taken over by Mrs. Cracknell. By a curious coincidence, Mrs. Patrick was also cited to appear before the Board, one charge against her being that the patient suffering from serious rupture of the perin um and other injuries of the soft parts she did not explain that the case was one in which the attendance of a registered medical practitioner was required. Both midwives were struck off. Rupture of the perin um rarely occurs with careful midwifery, and the fact that in both these instances so serious a rupture occurred seems to indicate careless work.

THE EAST END MOTHERS' HOME.

The Annual Meeting of the East End Mothers' Lying-in Home, 394-398, Commercial Road, E., is to be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20th, at 8, Little College Street, Westminster, S.W., by

permission of the Hon. Francis W. S. McLaren, M.P., and Mrs. McLaren. Many who know the humanitarian work the Home is doing, under the direction of the Matron, Miss M. Anderson, amongst the poorest of the poor, and its usefulness as a training school for midwives, will wish to endorse the resolution to be submitted, "That the East End Mothers' Lying-in Home is engaged in excellent work and deserves wider financial support, in order that it may maintain its efficiency and enlarge the sphere of its activity." We commend the Home to the notice and sympathy of our readers.

ORCADIAN CUSTOMS.

The great mysteries of birth and death have, says the *British Medical Journal*, always been surrounded by a host of superstitious beliefs and observances, and in remote and isolated communities these old customs often linger long after they have passed elsewhere "Out of the ages of worldly weather, Forgotten by all men altogether." The January number of the *Old-Lore Miscellany of Orkney, Shetland, Caithness, and Sutherland*, Part I, Vol. VII, contains one of an interesting series of articles by Mr. John Firth, in which the author describes some of the customs that within living memory were observed in Orkney at the birth of a child. The chief care of an Orcadian mother and her attendants at such a time seems to have been to preserve the newborn baby from the unwelcome attentions of "peerie-folk" or fairies, who were always on the look-out for a human child to kidnap or bewitch. To frighten them away, therefore, the mother kept beside her in the bed a Bible and a knife, the fairies of Orkney being apparently as much alarmed at the sight of these objects as the "Good People" of the Border were said to be by the homely blue bonnet when it reposed on the bed of a lying-in woman. To "make assurance doubly sure," however, relays of neighbours were called in for several nights to rock the cradle and shield its occupant from the nocturnal attacks of its mischievous enemies. A careful father, moreover, would ensure his child's future prosperity by arranging for its first drink to be taken off silver; and many were the expedients resorted to in poor homes, the most usual being to place a silver coin (frequently borrowed for the occasion) in the horn spoon, which served as the baby's pap-boat. Orcadian children must have been a hardy race, for in those days the first nourishment administered to the newly-born infant was a teaspoonful of toddy, and not infrequently both mother and nurses were anything but sober at the time of his birth. The nursing, therefore, both of mother and child must have been of the most primitive description, and as Mr. Firth justly remarks, "this, combined with the fact that it was but seldom that a doctor or a trained accoucheuse was called, clearly shows that the successful result of such incompetent obstetrics may be pertinently described as 'the survival of the fittest.'"

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