

is often denied to the mother who has been otherwise delivered.

"Generally speaking, the operation of Cæsarean section in a case of placenta prævia is indicated under the following conditions: (1) when the hæmorrhage has not been excessive and the maternal pulse is full and its rate not above 100 per minute; (2) when the cervix is undilated and appears to be unduly rigid, indicating that dilatation is likely to be slow and difficult, as is often the case in elderly primiparæ; (3) when the surgeon can be confident that there is no risk of sepsis from previous frequent vaginal examinations, &c.; (4) the pregnancy should have reached full term or very nearly so, and the foetal heart sounds must be good; (5) another factor which should influence the surgeon in deciding in favour of Cæsarean section is the co-existence of some disproportion between the size of the foetal head and the maternal pelvis; and (6) when the parents are especially desirous of a live child."

The writer then describes a successful case of Cæsarean section performed on a Eurasian woman aged 32 for placenta prævia. She had been married twelve years, and it was her first pregnancy.

UNREMITTING CARE OF NURSES SAVES BABIES' EYESIGHT.

In these times, when the work of Infant Welfare is occupying so much of the public attention, it is satisfactory to learn that the Poor Law Authorities are contributing their aid to this all-important work. At a recent meeting of the Barnet Guardians their Medical Officer drew their attention to two serious cases of *ophthalmia neonatorum* which had been successfully treated in their Infirmary. Dr. Stewart pointed out that it was owing to the unremitting care and attention of the nurses that the sight of these two infants had been preserved. While we do not grudge any meed of praise to our sisters working among the troops, those who are quietly and conscientiously going on with less interesting work should not be forgotten.

NEPHRITIC TOXAEMIA OF PREGNANCY.

A writer in the *New York Medical Journal* says that the gravid uterus pressing on the kidneys is one of the causes of nephritis in pregnancy. He advises as a prophylactic measure, where the tendency exists, or as contributing to its relief, the use of a special bed. It consists of a head piece and foot piece, each with a separate mattress and spring; between these is a broad band of rubber cloth. This is long enough to be hollowed out to accommodate the abdomen. The patient lies prone, that is, face downwards, thus relieving the pressure and permitting a comfortable reclining posture.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

EXAMINATION PAPER, OCTOBER 24TH, 1916.

1. Describe the uterus and its blood supply. Draw a diagram if you are able.
2. What are the signs that a threatened abortion has become *inevitable*, and what would your treatment be until the doctor arrives?
3. A woman three months pregnant asks your advice concerning a lump in the breast which she has had since her last confinement fifteen months ago. What is the importance of such a lump? And what would you advise?
4. From what discomforts are women liable to suffer during their pregnancy? How would you attempt to relieve any of them?
5. Describe in detail how you would manage a *normal* Breech Labour.
6. What rashes may a baby develop during the first ten days of its life? Which of these are serious, and how would you recognise or deal with them?

"I AM A GRANDMOTHER."

It is always fascinating to read about real people, and "Lady Login's Recollections," edited by her daughter, must not be missed. They take us back to before the Mutiny, as before marriage she went out to India to join her brother. Lady Login enjoyed the friendship of Queen Victoria, and tells the story that visitors were being shown through the galleries at Windsor Castle, when there was a sound of hurrying feet, accompanied by the cry, "The Queen! The Queen!"

"Our guide at once motioned us to stand aside, and, at the same moment, a door at the further end of the apartment was flung wide, and now the cry came in stentorian tones, while the Lord Chamberlain appeared, running backwards with extraordinary agility, to keep pace with the Sovereign whom he was ceremoniously ushering—thus showing that it was an errand of state that she was on.

"For the Queen, whom we had so lately parted from in calm dignity, was flying with the eagerness of a young girl, and so rapid was her movement, and so joyous her expression, it was plain that her suite had much difficulty in keeping pace with her speed. Catching sight of me in the distance as she came up the long room, she suddenly waved aloft a telegraph form that she was holding in her hand—ominous missive usually in those far-off days—and called out in triumphant tones, unheeding the shocked expression of her attendants at such unconventionality, 'Lady Login! Lady Login! I am a grandmother!'"

Her Majesty was on the way to communicate, with all due etiquette, to her Consort, Prince Albert, the birth of their first grandchild.

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