

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

At the last Penal Meeting of the Central Midwives Board, charges were heard against five midwives, with the following results:—

Struck off the Roll and Certificate Cancelled.—Midwives Agnes E. C. Guy (No. 8,470), Elizabeth Hough (No. 3,872), Emma Ibbitson (No. 11,631), Mary Ann Maddicks (No. 17,633).

Judgment Postponed: Report in 3 and 6 Months.—Harriet Annie Hassall (No. 36,105), C.M.B. Examination.

The County M.O.H., Isle of Wight, attended to give evidence in connection with the hearing of charges against Midwife Trent. He said in 1916 she had been fined £1 for failing to give notice that she intended to practise. Her explanation for the omission was that she did not want the M.O.H. "bothering round." The M.O.H. told the Board that there was not the slightest hope that she would be acceptable as a midwife. He suggested that, in cases where the midwife was unable to appear before the Board, it would be advisable to send down a Commissioner.

The Chairman replied that the solicitor for the Board acted in that capacity when necessary.

THE CASE OF THE PRINCESS CHARLOTTE.

Mr. R. Hingston Fox, in a letter to the *Lancet*, gives some interesting details in regard to the case of the Princess Charlotte in 1817, and quotes Dr. Matthew Baillie's own account of her death.

"It is," says Mr. Hingston Fox, "taken from a manuscript letter which has been preserved, addressed to the Princess's mother, and those who know Baillie's absolute candour of mind and character will attach the more value to his words. He writes:—

"This sad event has not arisen from any error in the treatment of her case. The Princess had enjoyed more than her usual health previous to her labour. The labour was exceedingly tedious, for it lasted 50 hours, but it was attended with no unusual circumstances, except a slight contraction of the womb, retarding the passing away of the after-birth. The Princess was well for more than three hours after the labour. She was suddenly seized with uneasiness in her chest, great difficulty of breathing, extreme restlessness, and a very rapid, feeble, and irregular pulse. Sir Richard Croft, Dr. Sims, and myself endeavoured to support her sinking frame with every kind of cordial, . . . but the Princess died in two hours from the beginning of the attack. Sir Richard Croft was indefatigable in his attention and zeal throughout the whole of this very sad business. He never quitted for more than a few minutes at a time the bedchamber of the Princess from the beginning of her labour until she expired. The child was a male, well formed, and stillborn. . . . About a pint of coagulated blood was found by examination in the womb and two ounces of water

were found in the bag surrounding the heart. These may in some measure account for the fatal event."

"The details given in this report confirm Playfair's inference that the cause of death was pulmonary embolism, then unknown. Embolism, it may be remembered, was only discovered by Kirkes and Virchow a generation later."

THE HYGEIA NURSING BOTTLE.

The *Modern Hospital* calls attention to a nursing bottle, the construction of which appears to the writer of the note, from a mechanical point of view, about the most practical and sanitary of the endless variety of bottles which have been



THE HYGEIA NURSING BOTTLE AND ITS COMPONENT PARTS.

devised for this purpose. The most appealing feature is the ease with which the food cell may be cleaned; no brush is required—the fingers can reach every part of the cell.

The Hygeia tube nursing bottle consists of one tube and two so-called breasts. When the breast at one end of the tube is turned inward, it forms the base of the nursing bottle. The nipple at the base may be punctured or not, as preferred. When the nipple is perforated, air enters the base of the bottle and nursing is not obstructed by air entering the bottle through the nipple, in use by the baby. The inventor claims that this makes nursing easier for the child; and if there is any leakage, it can be prevented by placing a bit of non-absorbing cotton within the nipple. When the breast at the top gives out, it may be placed at the base, thus giving one a fresh nipple for the top.

This nursing bottle is made in two sizes, namely, in 8-ounce and 10-ounce capacity. Both food cells are made of the same diameter; consequently the breast nipple will fit either size.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)