

teenth and Seventeenth Centuries," handsomely bound in calf and gilt lettered—only the restraining recollection of many dismal failures on my part in this direction leads me to feel more anxious to evoke the views of my sister workers than to air my own; but, by way of encouragement, I do not hesitate to say that the winner of the prize will at once take a front position in our ranks, and be entitled to the everlasting gratitude of *Obstetric Nurses*, present and to come.

But I must really go on with my work, or the Editorial blue pencil will be called into ruthless requisition, and all chance of our getting the Prize Essay dashed out.

There is one side of infantile crying not at all laughable—to the poor babies, for it has led to the baneful, I do not hesitate to say iniquitous practice of giving them narcotics, mostly in the form of some quack medicines, that ninety-nine times out of a hundred contain opium in some form or another. In the rare cases in which narcotics are given to infants under medical direction, their evil effects are minimised by careful *directions* implicitly carried out. In the bought compounds, the doses prescribed by the vendors of these delectable Soothing Syrups, &c., are *not* followed, but often by reckless and ignorant Mothers and Nurses doubled, and the intervals shortened, in cases of aggravated crying—and the fell remedy (?) is worse than the trouble it is given to relieve. Anything more woe-begone than a poor little narcotised baby one can hardly see. The heavy eyelids droop over the eyes, the lines of the face are all drawn down, especially the corners of the mouth; the countenance is pallid, with a slightly livid hue all over it; the arms hang listlessly down; the hands are too feeble to grasp your finger or anything else. At intervals the baby yawns, that a Sir Charles Coldstream might envy; the infant will take neither breast nor bottle, and cares not for food until the effects of his potion have passed away; and during this period he is extremely good, all "cries" are hushed! I am quite aware that this deplorable state of things is greatly on the wane, still it goes on (secretly) in rural districts and urban slums; and therefore I consider it the duty of all women engaged in midwifery work to oppose and expose a practice so harmful to infantile life and health.

Is there any way, then, by which we can pacify the crying of early infancy?

(To be continued.)

Gratis to Nurses, &c.—Samples and particulars of Loefflund's Milk and Malt products, &c., will be forwarded free to Nurses and Hospital authorities, on application to Loefflund, 14, St. Mary E.C.

Post-Card Examination.

WE are pleased to announce that in the *thirty-third* of this series of examination questions—

"Describe Wet Sheet Packing,"

Sister KATE COLLINS, whose card we reproduce, has secured the prize of a book or books of the value of five shillings:—

Sister Kate Collins

St. Kilesea Home

1. floor and Road

"Describe Wet Sheet Packing"
N.W.
Protect the bed with a waterproof sheet, spread over this a large blanket. Have ready either tepid or hot water as ordered by the doctor. Lay the sheet over the blanket, on this lay the patient and wrap the sheet around the body, each limb separately, until the whole body is enveloped. Wrap the blanket closely over this, leaving the head free. Then another blanket over all. If to produce perspiration raise the temperature of room and lay on more blankets. If to cool the body the patient must not remain too long in the pack. After the pack each day see the Nursing Record weekly at the Home
January 15th 92

The following have gained "HONOURABLE MENTION":—

Nurse BLACKBURN.

Miss EMILY HILL.

Nurse FLORENCE WESTON.

Miss FLORENCE SHEPPARD.

Nurse REDDOCH, L.O.S.

Miss R. H. DE TEISSIER CROSSE.

The answer of Miss K. TOWNSEND, M.R.B.N.A., was very good, but, as it occupied two post-cards, it disqualified her for the prize.

De Jong's Cocoa.—Dr. Hohner (President of the Society of Public Analysts) says: "Of absolute purity and highest excellence; surpasses in delicacy of aroma and richness of taste the best kinds hitherto offered to the public."

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