

could never again undertake the office, because it was too painful to her to give up her babies, as she was compelled to do in changing her employers. How instinctive is the prompting to cherish whatever is younger and weaker than ourselves is strikingly demonstrated in the case of children themselves. In a large family with slender means it is beautiful to see with what open-hearted rejoicing a new baby is welcomed. How protectingly and admiringly the little band hover around the youngest and tenderest of them all! By the way, such tender mercies may be cruel, as was witnessed the other day in my friend's family, when, upon occasion of nurse having unwarily turned her back, little Sadie, three years old, was found stuffing her baby sister's mouth with her own dinner, consisting of chicken and rice, wedging it in with a large silver fork. *N'importe*. The prompting love was all the same. With what an air of conscious superiority and benignity Jemmie, who can just totter alone, looks down upon "little sissie" in arms!

And who shall say how mighty are the deeds to spring from these budding germs of benevolence? Let them swell those buds of brotherly kindness, shielded by the fostering care of parental watchfulness! In the after-struggle to come with the selfishness of the world, memories of the disinterested affection poured forth to bless our childhood will invest us with a panoply of faith in the charities of our race strong enough to withstand many an onset of temptation urging us not to believe in any good.

The attractiveness of the theme has beguiled us into generalities, when we meant to confine ourselves to a few specific directions for the treatment of new-born babies.

The very first charge to give a nurse is to remember that, small though the little creatures are, they still must breathe. Do not cover the baby's face, as is yet the manner of some nurses. Accustom a child from the first to inhale fresh air, taking the precaution to protect the top and back of the head, so as to be shielded from exposure to draughts of air. So simple a direction may seem trivial, but the following occurrence, happening under the writer's own observation, proves that it may not be wholly superfluous. Two uncommonly intelligent ladies, calling upon the mother of an infant two weeks old, expressed a wish to see the child. The mother, being called away, left them, and when she returned to the bedside found that the ladies had drawn the blankets so closely that in a few more minutes there would have been no further need for care: the little creature was well-nigh smothered.

Careful tenderness is the next requisite for a nurse to possess. Gentleness may be

cultivated. The mere rough handling of a baby's feeble frame may cause discomfort amounting to pain. Be gentle in touch if you would nurse successfully. Have you never seen a crying child soothed and hushed by a mere transfer from the arms of one person to those of another more gentle and motherly?

Remember to keep the baby warm. Colic, that scourge of the first month of babyhood, may be in a great measure warded off by simply observing to maintain the baby's body at proper temperature. Especially guard the feet from cold. A baby kept always dry and warm will seldom be troubled with colic.

Washing and dressing baby is the important event of the day to a young mother, and no trifling duty is it to perform. Let the nurse choose an hour when she may uninterruptedly go through her task, a place where her charge shall not be exposed to cold. Use tepid water, so as to occasion no shock to the child, and submerge the whole body as soon as the navel is perfectly healed. Let the process be as rapid as is consistent with thoroughness, and rub well with a soft towel until reaction is produced. Every piece of clothing, after being well aired and warmed, should be arranged in in proper order and hung near by, so as to be put on without delay or running about from place to place with the naked child in one's arms (as is often done) to procure essentials that should all have been provided beforehand. Dip a clean linen rag in water before proceeding to do the rest of the washing, and wipe off thoroughly the coating of curdled milk adhering to the tongue, gums, and roof of the mouth. By a daily attention to this direction all danger of thrush is removed.

Secure the clothes firmly, but by inserting two fingers between the flannel band and child's body, as you are pinning it on, make sure of not fastening it too tightly.

Do not feed a baby every time it cries, but aim to have regular hours for giving it nourishment. Three hours is a good interval to allow between the meals, but be certain that the supply is adequate to the infant's wants at those times. Underfed children will be fretful; overfed children will be sickly. No directions, however explicit, can supply the lack of constant, unremitting watchfulness on the part of a nurse. Mother-love fortunately does not often need a reminder, yet even such love can always take the place of experience. She, then, is not a wise mother who does not gladly avail herself of hints meant to aid her in the discharge of her important if lowly task of striving in the first days of infancy to lay those foundations of vigorous, robust health that are the best mere earthly blessing that can be bequeathed to man.—*Harper's Bazar*.