

News, Notes and Queries

that of Africa, but it is much bigger. The fourth brought from a place called Taphimsius is so denominated also, it is round and white, and another stone within it, it is found in Rivers, this is held to be the worst, but in some respects very good, and the best of all the four for it is used for some occasions: but herein must we needs admire the works of God, for I have proved it to be true, that this stone hanged about a womans neck, and so as to touch her skin when she is with child, will preserve her safe from Abortion, and will cause her to be safe delivered when the time comes.

The Eagle stone held near the privy parts will draw forth the Child, as the Loadstone draws Iron, but be sure so soon as the Child and afterburthen are come away, that you hold the stone no longer, for fear of danger.

What must be done after the woman is delivered.

It will be profitable when a woman hath had sore travel, to wrap her back with a sheep-skin newly flead off, and let her ly in it, and to a Hare-skin, rub'd over with Hares blood newly prepared, to her belly; let these things be worn two hours in winter, and but one hour in Summer, for these will close up the parts too much dilated by the childs birth, and will expel all ill melancholly blood from those parts.

Her closing words are these:

Thus by the blessing of Almighty God, I have with great pains and endeavour run through all the parts of the Midwives Duty; and what is required both for the Mother, the Nurse and the Infant; desiring that it may be as useful for the end I have written it, to profit others, as I have found it beneficial to Me in my long Practice of Midwifery. To God alone be all Praise and Glory. Amen.

W. BROCKBANK

ANOTHER SMELLIE CERTIFICATE

THE publication of the Certificate of Attendance at William Smellie's lectures in 1757 by Dr. James Nankivell, in the July 1957 issue of *Medical History*, served to recall that a similar certificate was in the Boston Medical Library, issued to James Lloyd on the fourth day of March 1752, five years before the one issued to Dr. Nankivell's ancestor. Lloyd (1728–1810), a pioneer obstetrician and surgeon, was a descendant of another James Lloyd who emigrated to Boston about 1670 from Somersetshire, England, and became an important colonial merchant. As a young man Lloyd was apprenticed in medicine for five years to Dr. William Clark, one of the leading practitioners in Boston, and subsequently went to England where he spent two years in London attending the lectures on midwifery by William Smellie, and the demonstrations of William Cheselden, then at the height of his career. Lloyd also acted as 'a dresser' at Guy's Hospital and may have attended the lectures of William and John Hunter. Returning to Boston in 1752 after he had received his certificate from Smellie, he practised surgery, and particularly obstetrics, with considerable success, and was the first in America to put obstetrics on a scientific basis. Although he made no contributions to medical literature, for he was eminently a practitioner and not a scholar, he trained many pupils, including the young men who were to take an active part in the American Revolution in 1775. Greatly to his credit he remained in Boston during the entire Revolution, serving as a physician to the English until they evacuated the city, and later the Patriots, many of whom were led by his former pupils. His large estate on Long Island, New York, inherited from his father, was

News, Notes and Queries

partly destroyed by the British, and he made a half-hearted attempt to obtain compensation for the loss of his woodlands, and even went to London in 1789 for that purpose. His claim was refused unless he became a British subject; this he steadfastly refused to do and, with his self-respect unimpaired, returned home the same year empty-handed. When Benjamin Waterhouse began vaccination for smallpox in Boston in 1800, Lloyd saw the significance of the discovery and became an ardent advocate of it.

(See *Dictionary of American Biography*, New York, 1933, XI, 333.)

HENRY R. VIETS

D. J. DAVIS MEMORIAL LECTURE ON MEDICAL HISTORY

THIS year's lecture will be given on 16 April 1958, in Room 221 of the Dental-Medical-Pharmacy Building, 1853 West Polk Street, Chicago 12, Illinois.

The lecturer will be Dr. Ilza Veith of Chicago, who will speak on the topic of "Oriental Medicine and its Concepts of the Soul". Dr. Veith is the President of the Society of Medical History and is an authority on Chinese Medicine.