

[Newspaper cutting about multiple births ('Ten children at a birth') in Blackburn (1786) and Sheffield (1833)].

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TEN CHILDREN AT A BIRTH.

In White's Sheffield Directory for 1833 is the following announcement: "An instance of extraordinary fecundity is recorded in the *Leeds Mercury* of 1781, which says that Ann Birch, of Sheffield, was in that year delivered of ten children! We, in our turn, have heard of Sheffield ladies having three children at a birth; but we know no other case but that of the aforesaid Mrs. Birch which countenances the fructiferous fame which they have obtained in some circles."

Whether this frightful calamity really did befall the unfortunate Mrs. Birch we cannot verify, but it is certain that Dr. Nicholson was present at Hands-worth Woodhouse, near Sheffield, on the 10th of February, 1829, when the reigning monarch received five new subjects at a birth, four of whom lived to be baptized.

On the 24th of April, 1786, Margaret Waddington presented five of what Miss Tox called, "Angelic little strangers" to the parish of Lower Darling, near Blackburn, Lancashire. Poor little mites! Like good port, they are "old in bottle," and may be seen at the Royal College of Surgeons.



over again in a day or two—probably alone!"

ILLING WINE.

perimented upon, and the results have been very satisfactory. that he has tried some electrified wine upon a few of his frien

