

The Midwife
to be provided
of convenient
things.

shall be wanting. Wherefore the Midwife shall have a diligent care, that shee be furnished and provided timely and speedily to receive any birth, with a convenient Stoole or Chaire, with a Knife, Sponge, binders, and with oile of Lillies warmed, with which shee may profitably anoint both the wombe of the labouring woman, and her owne hands.

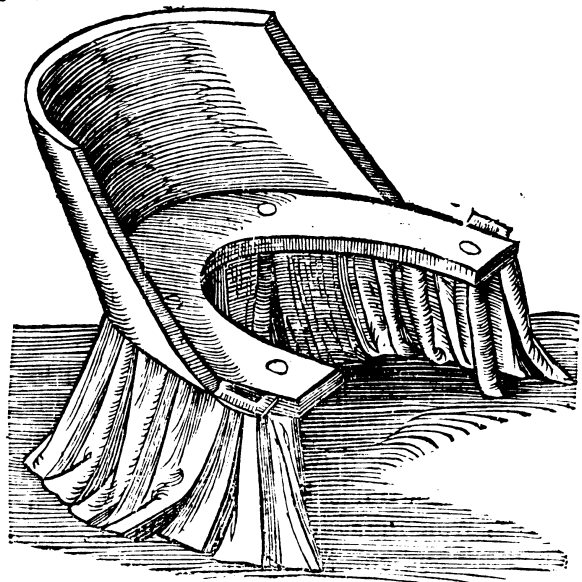
CHAP. II.

Of the Office of Midwives, and of the apt and fit forme and fashion of their Stoole or Chaire.

The office of
Midwives.

BVt what the Office of Midwives is, in the time of birth, and how the action may proceed, we will now declare. First, let the Midwife know the time, and observe the true paines and dolours, also let her comfort and cheare up the labouring woman, and let her chearefully exhort her to obey her Precepts and admonitions. Likewise let her give good exhortations to other women being present, especially to poure forth devout prayers to God, afterward to doe their duties at once, as well as they are able. Which done, let her bring the labouring

ring woman to her Stoole, which ought to be prepared in this fashion.



Let the Stoole be made *compasse-wile*, underpropped with foure feet, the stay of it behind bending backward, hollow in the midst, covered with a blacke cloth underneath, hanging downe to the ground, by that meanes that the labouring

The forme or
fashion of the
stool.