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Cossmapospmars who wisn notice to be taken of thoir communications, finonid anthenticate them with their names-0f course not necessarlly for publichan. ORRESPONDENTS not answered are requestod to look to the Notices to Corre. epondents of the following week.
MAYUSCRIPTS FORWARDED TO TEE OFFIOE OF THIS JOURNAL CAMINOT URDER AYY CIROUMETANCES BE RETURNED.
Public Eraith Department.-We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reportis, finvour os Fith Dupiicate Copies.

## CUERIES.

Soapmtone: (French Chalik) as a Dusting Powder.
R. E. P. writes : I shouid feel obliged if any member, who may have had practical experience, will iuform me as to the value, if any, of soapstone (silicate of alumina and magnesia) as a dusting powder for intertrigo in infants, and whether it is likely to be absorbed in sufficient quantity to produce any undosirable therapuutical effect. It is well known by shoemakers as French chalk, and is used by them for lubricating $\mathrm{ti}_{\boldsymbol{o}}$ ht shoes.

Tiff Prevention of Staining by Chrisophanic Acid.
M. B., M. A., writes : I shall feel greatly obliged if any member will give me a hint as to the prevention of the staining of chrysophanic acid, or its removal fter using the ointment. My patient suffers from psoriasis, and is greatly benefited by the drug, but in spite of warm baths afterits use, it still stains all his linen for days afterwards.
** Dr. Radcliffe Crocker has been good enough to supply us with the following answer to the above question: "The stains in linen are quite indelible without injuring the fabric, but they may be avoided by using the Auspitz method. A gutta-percha varnish, called traumaticin, is made by dissolving $3 j$ of pure gutta-perchs in $5 \times$ of chloroform, $3 j$ of chrysarobin is added, making an emulsion, which is painted on with a stiff brush after removing the scales every day, until a thick coat is formed : it is then allowed to peel off and renewed. It acts effectually and does not stain. Besnicr modified this by brushing in $3 j$ of chrysarobin in $3 x$ of chloroform, and then varnishing with tranmaticin. Both plans are equally good.'

## Contract Prices.

A Country Doctor would be obliged by advice as to what he should charge per annum for attendance on the workmen engaged in the construction of a railway, by anyone who has had experience in such contracts. The line is ten miles and 1000 men will be employed on it for three years. The doctor resides long, and 1,000 men will be employed on it for three years. The doctor resides only the five miles nesrest to him on which 600 men are to be employed. The only the ine miles the to pay for medicine; butas there is nochemist, and the doctor has to supply medicine, would it not be better to include medicine and surgical dressings in the contract. What would be a proper charge for them?

Battery for Electrolysis.
X. asks what battery Dr. Apostoli uses in his treatment of uterine fibroids; and if zinc, carbon, bichromate, as is supposed, what is the size of the plates; and how many cells are needed for an average current to be shown in the galvanometer, say, 100 milliamperes? Fresh fluid is supposed to be supplied with each application.

Paying Patient.
X. asks for information as to what London hospital would take in a small farmer with lupus of nine years' standing; the patient is able to pay £1 to £2 per week
** Guy's (apply to Dr. Steele, Guy's Hospital, 8.E.); St. Thomes's !Home (apply to the Superintendent, St. Thomas's Hospital, Albert Embankment S.E.).

## ANBEVERS.

Rates and Taxes.
F.R.C.S. E. - You cannot dednct anything from the rateable value of your house, because a part of it is used for professional purposes. In making out your returns for income tax, you should put down part of the rent and part of the rates as a professional expense, but using premises for profession or trade does not affect the rateable value. If you wish for fuller particulars, get from The Income Tax Repayment Agency, 25, Colville Terrace, How to Appeal against your Rates, a companion volume to Income Tax, How to get it Refunded.

## Removal of Milk Teeth

M.R.C.S., L.D.S., writes: In answer to the important question asked by "Far Away," I wonld strongly advise the retention of the milk teeth until the norma absorption of the root takes place. Without attempting to enter largely into the question, it may be said that the principal change in the size of the jaw is in a direction backwards, and the retention of the temporary teeth may assist in the demand upon Nature for the necessary supply of new bone for the perma nent molar series. A ten years' experience of general practice enables me to say that neither the medical practitioner nor parents are, at present, suffi ciently aware of the necessity for close attention being given to the temporary dentition and the eruption of the permanent teeth. Caries of the milk teeth should be discovered in time, and the organs asaved by flling. If from any cause they should be removed, "Far Away" need not be afraid of the enclosing alveolus contracting for, on the contrary, it becomes absorbed, to be rebuilt up about the necks of the permanent tecth when they are erupted.

## HOTEA, LETMESES, ETC.

## An APPEAL

Mr. Wright desires to acknowledge with thanks the following further contributions to Mrs. H.'s fund.

Dr. W. P. Braburn, Lymm

Langmore Defence Fond.
We are requested by Mr. G. Eistes, Honorary Secretary to the fund, to acknowledge the receipt by him of one guinea, sent by Surgeon-Major Stanley L. Dobie, 4th Madras Cavalry, Kamptee, India.

In Dr. Barnes's Memoir on Puerperal Fever, published on November 12th, p. 1042, 2nd column, line 16 from top, for "access of carbolic acid," read excess of carbonic acid.

Dr. Jaeger's Sanitary Woollen System Company, Limited, write: In your article of November 5th, headed "Woollen Winter Underclothing,", where you deprecate "an unreasonable faith in German science," we suppose that most of your readers will agree that the cap is intended to fit us, and we therefore ask to be allowed to reply.
If Dr. Jaeger's published views on the hygienic importance of all-wool clothing and bedding are unscientific, let them be refuted; but condemnation without reasons will not weigh against the warm commendation of professional and lay adherents, based on practical experience. We will not enter into controversy as to the comparative excellence in point of fit, seams, etc., as these are matters which must eventually be left to the verdict of the public, which we willingly accept. We wish, however, to claim that recngnition of merit which ality; and we believe that it will not be denied that Dr. Jaeger originated the ality; and we believe that it will not be denied that Dr. Jaeger origit
undyed, all-wool stockinet underwear which has become so popular.
When we introduced this underwear in Great Britain, British manufacturers had not the proper machinery to make it, and only quite recently have we succeeded in effecting arrangements, including provision of the proper machinery and yarn, for the Jaeger underwear to be made, under strict control as to purity and other high qualities, by British workpeople in British factories.

Obstetric Curiosity.
Dr. C. Lovrarove (Llanwddyn) writes: On Monday, November 14th, I was called to Mrs. J., who was in labour of her sixth child. On examination no membranes presented; the os admitted two fingers with difficulty, being so much out of reach. On the two previous occasions instruments were used; this time the labour was natural, the cord being four times round the child's neck, and 42 inches long, or 3 feet 6 inches. The child woald undoubtedly have been strangled had I not been there, so tight was the cord drawn, and reaching in layers from chin to sternum. I bring this case before the profession for two reasons; first, because it is so unusual; second, the medico-legal aspect, showing how easily a child may be strangled in a natural birth, and leave no trace of the cause of death, no indentation or mark remained on the neck after the cord was unwound, which I had great difficulty in doing, and which I accomplished by rotating the child from the navel attachments. There was no cry until some time after it was unwound.

OOMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from :
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Teneriffe and its Six Satellites: or the Cainary Islands, Past and Present. By Olivis M. Stone. In two Vols. Illustrated. Londen: Marcus Ward and Co. 1887.

Animal Matnetism. By A. Binet and Chas. Férẹ́. Lọndon : Kegan Paul, Trench and Co .

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