

Dr. Holländer that it is not in England considered proper for a medical man, when writing expressly for the lay public, to quote from his professional case-books, as is done for instance on pages 122 and 133 of the book referred to. Secondly, it is surely somewhat misleading for any one professing expert scientific knowledge to state to the public that: "It is a universally accepted fact that the size of the brain is a measure of mental power" (page 251). Thirdly, the author in several places, for example, pages 295 and 106, makes virulent attacks upon vivisection, which naturally affords no support to the fanciful theories put forward by him. We consider that the chief danger of his book is the effect which it may have upon the non-scientific reader. Medical men are hardly likely to take it seriously.

TREATMENT OF PROSTATITIS.

MR. FREDERICK J. FAGGE (Llanfairfechan) writes: In my last letter to you on the above subject, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of September 26th, p. 788, I find there is an error—printer's, I believe—on the fourth line from the bottom. It is put "Sulphate of magnesia with each dose of the mercury." It should have been, Mag. sulph. with each dose of the citrate of lithia as often as required. As regards the use of belladonna and glycerine as a suppository I am afraid I must plead guilty to one of your correspondents as to want of accuracy in direction. What it should have been was a small portion of equal parts of glycerine and ext. belladonnæ should be inserted in the rectum each night. I specially wish to mention this, as I once had a case in which I ordered the same prescription for irritation about the neck of the bladder, and it resulted in symptoms of belladonna poisoning appearing about two hours after the insertion. I should also have added that I ordered g. x of potassium bicarbonate in 3j of infus. buchu three times a day, alternately week or fortnight with the lithia tabloids.

THE MISSING LADY DOCTOR.

MR. E. F. HICKMAN (57, Courtfield Gardens, South Kensington, S.W.) writes: In reply to the many suggestions made to me, and for which I feel very grateful, I beg to say I am also of opinion it would be most desirable to obtain a suitable memorial, signed by as many persons as possible, presented by an influential deputation to the Secretary for Home Affairs (the Right Honourable Aretas Akers-Douglas, M.P.), praying for a public inquiry into all the circumstances relating to the sudden disappearance at noon of August 15th last of my dear daughter Sophia Frances Hickman, M.D., at the time she was devoting all her energies to the public service of this country as an unpaid resident medical officer of the Royal Free Hospital, one of the most important and necessary public hospitals of London. It is incomprehensible a young woman doctor, in the very best health both mental and physical, of evenness of temperament and strength of character, united to all her family and friends by close ties of kindred and affection, devoted to her work as a physician, fond of helping the poor, and completely happy and useful in every respect, should suddenly disappear at noon from the hospital in the centre of London several weeks ago, and not have been heard of since. It will be a great disgrace to this country should she not be recovered and the matter allowed to be hushed up. If so, no woman will be able to feel safe in future in the London streets in broad daylight. The co-operation of judges, bishops, members of Parliament and of the medical profession, clergymen of all denominations, and other influential men and women, should be obtained to make a powerful appeal to the Home Minister for a public inquiry. No time should be lost.

HEPATIC PHLEBOTOMY.

FLEET-SURGEON W. EAMES (H.M.S. *Mars*, Channel Squadron) writes: In reference to the subject of blood-letting in cases of congested and enlarged liver as mentioned by Mr. Cantlie in his paper on Liver Abscess published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of September 19th, I would point out that at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association in 1888, the late Dr. Harley read a paper styled Hepatic Phlebotomy or Liver Blood-letting by Trocar and Cannula, which he suggested as a novel and original procedure, to be adopted in cases of acutely congested and enlarged liver, as met with in the tropics, thus effectively reducing the chances of abscess formation in such cases; but, as was shown by the late Lieutenant-Colonel Ryan, R.A.M.C., Dr. Harley's idea, as a method of treatment, was anticipated by several years by Maclean, who in his lectures to surgeons on probation at Netley, recommended direct blood-letting from the liver in cases of acute congestive enlargement as met with in India and the tropics. It would be interesting to know to what extent this procedure has been adopted in the cases mentioned and with what result as a preventive in abscess formation. The varying length of needles used by Mr. Cantlie, in accordance with the anatomical points mentioned by him, would appear to establish in respect of dangerous hæmorrhage an assured safety for liver puncture.

TOXIC EFFECTS OF HEROIN.

DR. W. J. YOUNG (Cambridge) writes: "Giving heroin to a lady recently I was surprised to observe the development of a macular and papular rash with cerebral symptoms—drowsiness, mental dullness, and a sort of nightmare each night. The whole of the symptoms rapidly disappeared on stopping the drug. The dose given was $\frac{1}{16}$ gr. every four to six hours.

THE CULEX OF THE BRAIN.

CERTAIN daily papers are an endless source of amusement and wonderment. They are frequently much more comic than the alleged comic periodicals. In the issue of September 25th of the *Daily Mail* there was an item headed "X Rays and Epilepsy, from our own correspondent in New York." We are therein gravely informed that a powerful x ray is directed at the patient's head. This may pass. But the climax is reached when it is stated that the rays soothe the culex of the brain. As every student of anatomy knows, the nomenclature of the various parts of the brain is not child's play. Now, in addition to marine monsters, to wit, the hippocampus, and, it may be added, the major and minor of the breed, we have the gnat. Cortex is, of course, what is meant; but how is that cheerful unintellectual biped, the man in the street, to know that, especially when he is having his breakfast, and has no time to consult his old *Encyclopædia*? It is, indeed, a case of straining at a gnat. But was it worth while discovering America to

have this sort of news cabled to us at great expense? The only thing that can be said in its favour is *que ça désole la rate*, as Rabelais would have said.

SECTION OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

ERRATA.—In the paper on the Mechanism of Accommodation in Man, by Dr. Karl Grossmann, which was published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of September 26th, p. 726, in Fig. 4 B, the lens was represented as having moved upwards only, whereas it had moved upwards and laterally. In Fig. 5 d, the three points should not have been in a straight, but in a curved line. In the description under Fig. 5 two final letters had fallen out. At p. 730, column 2, line 6 from the bottom, "and; dioptries" should read "2.5 and 3.5 dioptries."

LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., have been received from:

A. B.; Mr. T. Adams, London; Alpha; Mr. D. Armour, London; Apollinaris Company, Manager of, London; Ajax; Professor T. Clifton Allbutt, Cambridge. B. C. W. Branch, M.B., St. Vincent; Messrs. F. L. Borthwick and Co., London; Miss E. Bradley, Reading; Dr. St. R. Bonnet, Chatel Guyon; Dr. M. Beverley, Norwich; Dr. F. Bushnell, Plymouth; T. I. Bonner, M.B., Shipley; Miss E. Beatty, Dublin; Dr. C. E. Beever, London; Messrs. F. Bayer and Co., London; Dr. W. W. Black, Liverpool. C. Cyclist; Dr. H. A. Caley, London; Dr. J. A. Calentariens, Scarborough. D. Mr. A. S. Duke, Haslemere; Mr. G. W. Duncan, London; Disappointed; Dr. T. W. Dewar, Dunblane; Mr. J. Dickinson, Bishop Auckland; D. R.; Dr. E. Deanesly, Wolverhampton; Dr. L. Daniel, London. E. Dr. F. Edg., Wolverhampton; Eremes. F. Dr. R. Fullerton, Glasgow; Mrs. B. Fenwick, London; Mr. A. L. A. Forbes, London; E. R. Fothergill, M.B., London; Messrs. Fuerst Bros., London; Mr. J. Forster, London; Mr. F. T. Fagge, Buxton. G. Mr. T. P. Costing, Worcester; Mr. G. P. Gaskell, London; Miss A. J. Gardner, M.B., Edinburgh; G. M. S. H. L. D.; H. T. Herring, M.B., London; Mr. E. F. Hickman, London; Mr. F. H. Hardy, London; Dr. W. Harris, London; Dr. T. J. Horler, London; Mr. H. N. Hardy, London; Dr. H. H. Hardy, London; Surgeon-General Sir W. Hooper, London; Mr. J. Hutchinson, jun., London; Hon. Sydney Holland, Royston. J. Dr. W. B. Jones, Langamarch Wells; Mr. J. Johnson, Bideford; Dr. J. A. Jones, Aberavon. K. King's College, Secretary of, London; Dr. C. F. Knight, Portobello. L. J. W. Lindsey, M.B., Paraguay; T. D. Luke, M.B., Edinburgh; Mr. S. R. Lister, King's Lynn; Dr. V. W. Low, London; Leviathan; Mr. J. Lawrence-Hamilton, Brighton. M. D. M. Macdonald, M.B., Dunkeld; F. C. Madden, M.B., Cairo; Dr. C. Mercier, London; M. Messrs. J. M. Mitchell and Co., Glasgow; Mr. J. J. Mackay, London; Mr. G. H. Makins, C.B., London; M.D. and a Father; M.O.H.; Dr. C. Murray, London; Mr. P. E. Miall, Bradford; Mr. H. Mills, London; Medical Society of London, Secretary of, London; N. National Association for Prevention of Consumption, Secretary of, London; Dr. J. T. C. Nash, Southend-on-Sea; R. E. Newton, M.B., Perth, W.A. O. Mr. E. M. Owen, Guildford; Obstetrical Society, Secretary of, London. P. Dr. A. Pick, Carlisle; Mr. G. Pernet, London; Dr. B. Pierce, York; Dr. W. R. Parker, Kendal; Mr. S. Paget, London; Pharmaceutical Journal, Editor of, the London; Pro Bono Publico; Dr. J. Pirie, Leamington; Paul Pry; Mr. E. J. Parry, Hurstpierpoint; Dr. E. Purdon, Belfast; J. G. Pardoe, M.B., London. R. Mr. W. F. Reckitt, London; Mr. C. F. Rudd, Staham; Royal Waterloo Hospital, Secretary of, London; R. C. S. Mr. J. L. Stretton, Kidderminster; Mr. F. G. Scott, London; Dr. B. Stewart, Bridgend; Mr. E. R. Sleman, London; Mr. W. F. Sheard, London; South of the Tweed; Seismic; Mr. H. de Styrac, Salisbury; Dr. E. E. Starling, London; Dr. E. H. Snell, Coventry; Dr. B. St. Bastian, London; Messrs. W. B. Saunders and Co., London. T. Miss H. Todd, London; A. P. Thom, M.B., Geraldton, W.A.; Dr. J. C. Thomson, Hong Kong; Tibia. V. Mr. S. Vines, Manchester; Viator. W. Dr. F. J. Waldo, London; Dr. W. Wingrave, London; Mr. G. D. Wilson, London; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Animal and Vegetable Fixed Oils, Fats, Butters, and Waxes; their Preparation and Properties, and the Manufacture therefrom of Candles, Soaps, and other Products. By C. E. Alder Wright. Second edition, edited by C. Ainsworth Mitchell. London: C. Griffin and Co., Limited. 1903. 25s.

Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland. A Revision of the Statistics presented by the Committee on Tuberculosis. By T. A. Chapman, M.D. London: Adlard and Son, 1903.

Die Mitbewegungen bei Gezeiten, Norven und Gesteinskranken. Von Dr. Offrid Forster. Jena: Gustav Fischer. 1903. M. 1.50.

Etude sur l'Hygiène et la Médecine au Brésil. Notice sur la Climatologie des Principales Villes de l'Empire. Par le Dr. L. Raymond. Paris: J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1902. Fr. 5.

Adeno-Myome des Uterus. Von Thomas S. Cullen. Berlin: August Hirschwald. 1903.

Home Nursing. By Bernard Myers, M.D., C.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., etc. London: Baillière, Tindall and Co. 1903. 3s. 6d.

Practical Nursing. By Isla Stewart and Herbert E. Cuff, M.D., F.R.S.S. Vol. II. Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood and Sons. 1903. 3s. 6d.

Scheme for the Differential Testing of Nerves and Muscles for Use in Diagnosis. By J. Montgomery Mosher, A.M., M.D. Albany, New York: Brandon Printing Co. 1903. 1d.

* In forwarding books the publishers are requested to state the selling price.

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