

Queries, answers, and communications relating to subjects to which special departments of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are directed will be found under their respective headings.

QUERIES.

- CIVIS asks where he is likely to obtain authentic information for estimating the relative monetary compensation for the loss of an eye, limb, or finger, computing total permanent disablement or death at £300.
- J. H. would be glad to know of a suitable institution for a boy aged 8½ years, who has been having epileptic attacks regularly for the last four years, and whose mental condition is becoming impaired.
- J. I. M. asks where he can obtain information dealing with the proper proportions of the human body, for example, relative circumference of chest at nipples and abdomen at the level of the navel.
- SENILITY will be glad to be informed whether there is any home or hospital, in Sussex if possible, to which an aged gentleman over 80, who is suffering from senile dementia, could be sent. His family are in straitened circumstances, and at present have to employ a day and night nurse to look after him. They are prepared to pay the sum of 2 guineas per week to have him taken care of.
- G. G. writes: Is there any home or other institution in which we could place a woman, aged 40, epileptic, and partly imbecile, but otherwise strong and healthy? Her friends could contribute 4s. or 5s. a week, but it must be mainly a work of charity. When not suffering from fits she can do a little work. Cumberland or its neighbourhood preferred, so that her friends can visit occasionally.
- A MEMBER writes: I should like if possible to have definite information on the following points: What is the largest dose of iodide of potassium—if any—which can be given for an indefinite time—say years—to a rheumatic patient? My patient, a married woman, aged 30, improves under its use, but gets worse immediately on stopping it. The rheumatism is articular. Can anyone speak well of the hydro-electric treatment of rheumatism? Could it be carried out successfully without complete immersion, and would an ordinary Spamer's battery be of any use?
- G. W. ISAAC, M.B. (Gower Street, W.C.) writes: Will somebody kindly tell me whether there is any better treatment for the removal of hair from the upper lip of a young lady than electrolysis? Is the removal of hair by means of x rays practicable? If so from whom can I obtain information?
- *.* The *Wiener medizinische Wochenschrift* (Nos. 22-24, 1898) contains a paper on the x rays in hypertrichosis by Drs. E. Schiff and L. Freund.
- RUSTICUS writes: I have a patient, a primipara, six months pregnant after being married five years. Although I have examined at intervals since menstruation ceased, I am entirely unable to feel any os, and indeed expressed a decided opinion at first that she was not pregnant. I examined her some few years ago for amenorrhoea, which was set right by a course of iron; my recollection is that she then had a long conical cervix with a small os. I should like to know if the present condition is a common one, if it is likely to cause trouble at parturition, and if so, where I can get the best information as to treatment.
- *.* The condition is not common. It may cause delay in the first stage of labour. "Rusticus" will find some information about it in Dr. Herman's work on *Difficult Labour*, p. 248.

ANSWERS.

- C.M.C. writes to say that perhaps the Victoria Home for Invalid Ladies, Headingley, Leeds, would suit the case referred to by "P.L.G.S."
- DR. J. G. MARSHALL.—We see no objection to the advertisement for rooms for consulting purposes as submitted.
- INQUIRER.—Full information as to the requirements and course of study for the M.D. London will be given in the Educational Number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, which will be published on August 27th.
- MEMBER, B.M.A. (Montreal).—Full information as to the conditions under which the diplomas of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of London and Edinburgh can be obtained will be found in the Educational Number of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, which will be published on August 27th.
- W.G.B.—1. We are not aware that any such rule or custom prevails, nor do we believe that such a rule could be established or enforced. 2. The plan referred to has the sanction of the writer of one of the best-known textbooks, and we believe there is some evidence that it is efficacious. 3. *La Semaine Médicale*.

"CURE FOR ASTHMA"

LANCS.—We are unable to give any information respecting the asthma medicines as to which our correspondent inquires.

NOTES, LETTERS, Etc.

ERRATUM.—The gainer of the Bronze Medal and Prize of the Medico-Psychological Association was John Robert Lord, not George Robert Lord as stated in the report which appeared in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of July 30th.

AN APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE WIDOW OF THE LATE
DR. ARTHUR BARLOW.

The following additional subscription has been received on behalf of this fund:—

Per Dr. J. A. Matson—	£	s.	d.
W. Alex. Hearnden, M.D....	...	...	...

THE ACTION OF GLYCERINE UPON PERCHLORIDE OF IRON.
DR. THOMAS CARTER (Richmond, Yorks) writes: Dr. Hale White in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of July 9th states that he usually gives liq. ferri perchlor. mixed with same quantity of glycerine in cases of hematemesis, but I have always been taught that these are incompatible. It is so stated in *Squire's Companion*.

. The addition of glycerine to the liquor or tincture of the perchloride of iron modifies the styptic properties of the ferric chloride and covers the metallic taste. The modification produced by glycerine on the astringent taste of the perchloride is mainly due to its viscosity. Very large doses of liquor ferri perchloridi can be given with an equal bulk of glycerine without producing irritation and with good results in hematemesis (Dr. Hale White, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, July 9th, 1898, p. 118). Perchloride of iron mixed with glycerine forms an efficient and not unpleasant astringent paint for the throat. In this application the liquor ferri perchloridi on account of its acidity is better replaced by the solid perchloride of iron. This salt is prepared by careful evaporation of the liquor ferri perchloridi fortis. It is in pale orange-yellow opaque crystalline masses, very deliquescent and entirely soluble in water. A paint much used at Guy's Hospital is composed of perchloride of iron 1 and glycerine 4. Under certain conditions glycerine acts as a reducing agent upon perchloride of iron, converting it into a ferrous salt. This fact was first brought to notice by Mr. G. F. Schacht in a note upon the action of glycerine on some salts of iron read at a meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Southampton, 1882 (*Year Book of Pharmacy*, 1882, p. 496). Mr. Schacht's experiments showed that glycerine reduces persalts of iron and tends to prevent the oxidation of protosalts, and that this influence appears to be stronger when the mixture is exposed to sunlight than when it is left in the shade.

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

Mr. A. K. Bulley, Liverpool; Mr. H. H. Beale, Reading; Dr. G. W. Balfour, Edinburgh; Dr. T. W. Blake, Bournemouth; J. M. Bramwell, M.B., London; Dr. J. J. G. Brown, Edinburgh; Mr. B. Browning, Weymouth; Mr. T. D. Bell, Carlisle; Dr. D. C. Black, Glasgow; C. C. P. Crouch, M.B., Weston-super-Mare; Mr. J. Carmichael, Cork; Mr. J. Carter, London; Mr. W. H. Coupland, Lancaster; Mr. C. Campbell, Saddleworth; Mr. C. Carrington, Paris; C. M. C.; Mr. W. F. Clay, Edinburgh; F. M. Caird, M.B., Edinburgh; Mr. H. N. Custance, London; Dr. H. J. Campbell, Leeds; W. B. Drummond, M.B., Edinburgh; E. E. H. B.; Enquirer; Mr. R. A. Easton, Edinburgh; E. M.; Mr. H. Elliot-Blake, London; F. Messrs. Fletcher, Fletcher, and Co., London; General Practitioner; Geneva Cross; Mr. A. E. Greville, London; G. Govan, M.B., Cockermonth; Messrs. E. Goddard and Aldridge, London; Mr. L. W. Gans, Frankfurt-on-Main; H. Dr. J. Highet, Worthington; Mr. F. Howell, York; C. M. Hector, M.B., Edinburgh; Mr. T. G. Horder, Cardiff; I. Dr. H. H. Irvine, Boirstown; K. Mr. H. Klynsey, Whitstable; Mr. B. Kuhn, London; L. J. R. Lord, M.B., Southampton; Dr. E. J. Lloyd, Bangor; Dr. T. G. Lyon, London; M. W. MacLennan, M.B., Glasgow; Mr. T. I. Mills, Easingwold; Dr. T. S. Maguire, Stony Stratford; Dr. A. J. Mackintosh, Esh; Mr. J. A. Magee, Clow; Dr. J. A. Menzies, Rochdale; Mr. A. H. Martin, Evesham; Dr. P. McBride, Edinburgh; Dr. J. A. Matson, London; Member Brit. Med. Assoc.; J. Malcolm, M.B., Edinburgh; Member. N. Mr. F. A. Nyulasy, Melbourne; Neuron. P. Dr. J. Pickett, London; Dr. C. B. Plowright, King's Lynn; H. V. Palin, M.B., Wrexham; Mr. C. Pound, Odiham; Practitioner; F. S. Pitt-Taylor, M.B., Birkenhead; Mr. H. J. Prangley, London; Dr. A. G. Phear, London; R. Dr. J. M. Rhodes, Didsbury; Rusticus; Mr. F. A. Rogers, London; S. Mr. W. D. Scott-Moncrieff, London; Mr. J. Smithson, Epsom; Mr. L. Stephens, Emsworth; Mr. M. Scott, London; Mr. E. Shackleton, Whitworth; Mr. G. Stevens, Norton; W. Snodgrass, M.B., Glasgow; Soldier Surgeon; Mr. J. Snowman, London; W. H. Stephen, M.B., Smethwick; Senility. T. Mr. T. H. Tetley, Bungay; Dr. J. C. Thresh, Chelmsford; U. Ubique; Dr. A. E. Urquhart, Perth; W. Mr. A. Walker, Rochdale; Dr. A. O. Ward, London; Dr. W. J. Wheeler, Dublin; Mr. M. A. Wardle, Bishop Auckland; Mr. J. H. Walker, West Calder; Messrs. Widemann, Broicher, and Co., London, etc.

BOOKS, Etc., RECEIVED.

Ueber Malaria und andere Blutparasiten. The Effects of the Diamond Jubilee on the Resources of Voluntary Charities. By Von Dr. H. Ziemann. Jena: Gustav Sir Henry Burdett, K.C.B. London: The Scientific Press, 1898. 1s.

Diseases of the Stomach. By M. Einhorn, M.D. Second Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1898. 12s. 6d.

La Diphtérie. Par H. Barbier et A. G. Uman. Paris: J. B. Baillière et Fils. 1898. Fr. 1.50.

Atlas and Essentials of Pathological Anatomy. By Dr. O. Bollinger. Vols. I and II. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1898. 2s.

A Manual of Chemical Analysis, Qualitative and Quantitative. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1898. 6s. 6d.

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

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

Eight lines and under	...	...	...	£0	4	0
Each additional line	...	...	...	0	0	6
A whole column	...	...	...	1	17	6
A page	...	...	...	5	5	0

An average line contains six words.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, at the Office, not later than noon on the Wednesday preceding publication; and if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association at the General Post-Office, London. Small amounts may be paid in postage-stamps.

N.B.—It is against the rules of the Post Office to receive letters at *Postes Restantes* addressed either in initials or numbers.