

## NOTES, LETTERS, Etc.

SIR FELIX SEMON requests us to state that an article concerning himself, which appeared in a recent issue of *M. A. P.*, was published without his knowledge and consent.

ERRATUM.—In the annotation on the Care of the Feeble-Minded, in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of May 13th, page 1175, column 2, line 5 from bottom, for "cure" read "care."

CORRECTION.—The name of the stove mentioned by Dr. A. M. Roberts (South Norwood) in his communication on the use of heat in the treatment of arthritis, published in the *JOURNAL* of May 6th, page 1140, is the "Instra," and not the "Justice" stove as printed. Messrs. D. Blair and Co., 47, Cannon Street, E.C., are the makers.

## A CAUTION.

DR. LESLIE PHILLIPS (The Crescent, Birmingham) writes: I am informed that a man giving the name of Whittingham is writing begging letters and calling on my medical friends in London, freely quoting my name as a recommendation. Such use of my name is entirely unauthorised by me.

## AN APPEAL ON BEHALF OF DR. COOKE.

DR. J. C. EAMES (Barnfield House, Stonecrough, near Manchester) writes to acknowledge the following additional subscription received on behalf of this fund:

K. W. M. ... .. £1 1 0

## A DECIMO-DUODECIMAL SYSTEM.

DR. A. CORDES (Geneva) writes: In my communication headed as above, which appeared in the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* of May 6th, page 1140, I wish to make the following corrections: In Line 9, after "multiplication" add "and division;" in lines 10 and 12 instead of "120" read "744," in line 19, instead of "10 times" read "series of numbers," and in lines 11 and 12 erase the "twos." The errors are mine.

## THE BRITISH NORTH BORNEO PUBLIC MEDICAL SERVICE.

We regret to understand that a good deal of dissatisfaction exists among the officers of the North Borneo Public Medical Service owing to recent changes in the pay and privileges of these officers. It would seem that the directors had been led to believe that by keeping a monopoly of the sale of drugs in the hands of the company a sufficient profit would be realised to pay the expenses of the medical establishment, and that when this result was not realised they reduced the salaries of the medical officers. In addition to this there seems to be a desire on the part of the directors to compel the medical officers to pay over to the company a share of the medical fees obtained by them in private practice. They are also required to give their services free to all Government officials, galls, and hospitals, and to manage the aforesaid drug trade for the Government. Assuming the facts to be correctly stated, we have here a peculiar position of things which is hardly likely to work satisfactorily, and we trust that the directors of the company will see their way to making better arrangements.

## BRONCHITIS EXCITED BY SULPHUROUS ACID.

MR. JOHN SPURWAY, M.B. (Merstone, Tring) writes: J. K., aged 59, a man subject to slight attacks of asthma, but at the time in good health, was on March 21st fumigating a house with sulphur in the usual way, after a case of scarlet fever. Instead of leaving the room immediately after lighting the sulphur, unfortunately he remained for some time endeavouring to stop the cracks of a badly-fitting door. He was thus exposed for some minutes to the fumes of sulphurous acid gas. It produced rapidly symptoms of acute bronchitis. On the next day he remained away from work, and was treated with an expectorant mixture, followed by hot poultices.

This treatment at first produced free expectoration and some relief; but he soon grew rapidly worse, and developed capillary bronchitis of a sthenic type. He was cyanosed, his breathing very laboured, and his pulse hard and strong. His temperature varied from 100° to 102.2° F.

He obtained some temporary relief from the use of a tent bed, with a bronchitis kettle containing tinct. benzoin co. 3j to the pint, whilst a capsule of amyl nitrite and the addition of mj doses of a 1 per cent. solution of nitroglycerine to his mixture, seemed to relieve his breathing for a time. But in spite of good nursing and constant care he still got worse, and died on March 29th, the eighth day of his illness. No doubt the SO<sub>2</sub> was the exciting cause of the bronchitis which thus ended fatally.

The case is interesting as showing the danger associated with the use of SO<sub>2</sub> as a disinfectant, although when used carefully and with due precautions that danger is reduced to a minimum. It also speaks in favour of other disinfectants, such as formalin (formaldehyde), and chinolol.

## FOMENTATION IN UTERINE INERTIA.

DR. F. GOWER GARDNER (Warwick) writes: I can endorse Mr. Wharton's statement in your issue of May 6th as to the value of this proceeding. I was recently called to a multipara at 5 A.M. The membranes had ruptured at 1.45 A.M. and liquor amnii had been draining away all that time, but there had not been a single pain. The os was fully dilated. I directed the nurse to apply hot fomentations to the abdomen and the result was highly satisfactory, the pains recommenced at once and the child was expelled in ten minutes or less.

## BICYCLE TYRES.

W. R. G. writes: Mr. Turner, in his answer to "Ixion," makes no mention of Fleuss tyres. After a trial of other patterns these have proved themselves so satisfactory in country practice, that I venture to send a few notes to "Ixion" and others who may still be in doubt as to the best tyres. Since punctures will always occur at the wrong time, the tyre most easily manipulated must be the best for the busy man. In the Fleuss, after very slight practice, no mending should take more than fifteen minutes, while in the vast majority of punctures the single tube has this additional advantage, that a simple pumping up will carry you many miles, only quite a large nail rendering immediate attention

necessary. As to durability, my back tyre ran well over 3,000 miles on all sorts of roads and in all seasons before it was necessary to replace it, and my front one is still going well with practically no signs of wear at over 4,000; this, I am informed, is the general average life of other patterns. They work best when pumped up hard, thus leading to the only disadvantage I have found in them, that on an uneven road when riding fast the vibration is greater than on the double tubes, in which there is somewhat more of an absorptive action for obstacles than in the single tube Fleuss.

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

Mr. J. R. Ambler, Chester; Messrs. Allen and Hanburys, London; Mr. E. H. Alton, Monaghan; Miss Arkell, London; E. F. Armour, M.B., Edinburgh; Aymard's Steriliser Company, Ipswich; Alpha. Mr. A. Bance, Enfield; Dr. W. S. Barnes, George Town, Demerara; Messrs. D. Blair and Co., London; Mr. W. L. H. Blenkarne, Worthing; Dr. T. Beattie, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. O. A. Browne, London; Mr. W. M. Beaumont, Bath; F. M. Blumer, M.B., Stafford; Mr. G. A. H. Barton, Morchard Bishop; Mr. W. H. Beverley, Scarborough; Mr. V. E. Barrow, Uffculme; B. A., Darm; F. Beach, M.B., London; Dr. J. Barr, Liverpool; Dr. W. Bain, Harrogate. C. L. M. F. Christian, M.B., Stockport; Dr. C. C. Claremont, Southsea; Miss M. M. Chadburn, M.B., London; T. M. Callender, M.B., Sidcup; Catarrh; Capt. R. A. M. C.; Professor E. M. Crookshank, London; Dr. A. C. Coles, Bournemouth. Dr. A. Duke, Cheltenham; Dr. A. Dennison, Leeds. Dr. F. H. Edmonds, George Town, Demerara; Enquirer; H. L. Evans, M.B., Goring-on-Thames. F. H. B. C.; Fees; Mr. J. T. Fox, Strathpeffer Spa; Mr. W. A. Frost, London; Dr. J. Finlayson, Glasgow; Dr. T. Fisher, Clifton; A. Fraser, M.B., Manchester; Mr. W. T. Freeman, Reading. Dr. L. Grant, Edinburgh; Mr. M. L. A. Gataki, Weston-super-Mare; A. Gregor, M.B., Sutton-on-Trent; Glasgow Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society; Secretary of Glasgow; W. R. Groves, M.B., St. Ives, Hunts; G. P.; Dr. A. E. Giles, London; Mr. F. G. Gardner, Warwick; Mr. G. P. Gaskell, London. H. House-Surgeon; Mr. J. T. Hartell, Willenhall; Dr. J. D. Hayward, Liverpool; Mr. H. Holmes, Pontefract; Mr. W. F. Haslam, Birmingham; Mr. H. Horrocks, M.B., Bradford; Dr. T. Hinks, Hay; H. Hodgson, M.B., Blisworth; Mr. A. D. Humphrey, Kurseong; T. B. Hyslop, M.B., London; G. Halley, M.B., Dundee; Dr. A. E. H. C. Hallen, London; Dr. G. Halket, Glasgow; J. B. Hall, M.B., Bradford. J. M. H. H. Jennings, London; Dr. G. T. Jackson, New York. K. Dr. E. H. Kennan, Dublin; Dr. R. W. Kendall, Holyhead. L. Mr. R. P. Lamond, Glasgow; Messrs. Lynch and Co., London. M. Mr. W. H. D. Mence, St. Ives, Hunts; Mr. G. H. Makins, London; Mr. E. J. Muirbridge, Kingston-on-Thames; Dr. H. J. Macevoy, London; Medico; H. D. McCulloch, M.B., Delhi; T. Massie, M.B., London; Mr. J. C. McWalter, Dublin; W. Murray, M.B., Birmingham; Mr. W. J. D. Mulford, London; Dr. A. W. Mackintosh, Aberdeen; Dr. E. E. Moore, Letterkenny. N. Mr. G. Newman, Gloucester; E. S. Nutting, M.B., Warsop; Mr. C. H. Newby, Portsmouth. O. Mr. E. A. Onyon, Eye; Old Subscriber. P. P. M. O.; Dr. T. D. Poole, Wolverhampton; Dr. F. L. Phillips, Birmingham. Q. Mr. E. Quayle, Urmston. R. Rusticus; Dr. C. Ruata, Perugia; Dr. E. Reece, London; Mr. F. A. Rouget, Mauritius; Dr. G. Rankin, London; Dr. S. M. Roberts, London; Mr. T. O'Connell, Dublin; Mrs. F. Rye, London; J. S. Riddell, M.B., Aberdeen. S. Mr. A. G. L. Smith, Crick; Sir F. Semon, London; Mr. B. R. Sibbitt, Coventry; Sap; Dr. F. W. Smith, Harrogate; Mr. G. Stead, Walsall; W. W. Sinclair, M.B., Ipswich; Student; H. B. Smith, M.B., Bradford. W. Dr. H. Walsham, London; Mr. T. E. Williams, Talgarth; Dr. F. B. Walters, London; W. A.; Dr. A. A. Warden, Paris; Mr. W. E. Williams, Clifton; Dr. F. Willcocks, London; H. W. Webber, M.B., Plymouth; Mr. T. H. Williams, Oswestry; Mr. H. E. Wilson, London; Dr. T. Wright, Washington, co. Durham; Dr. F. J. Waldo, London; W. R.; Dr. G. C. Walker, Southport, etc.

## BOOKS, Etc., RECEIVED.

- Some Diseases of the Rectum and Anus. By Sir William Thomson, F.R.C.S.I. London: Sir I. Pitman and Sons. 1896. 2s. 6d.
- Annual and Analytical Cyclopaedia of Practical Medicine. Edited by C. E. de M. Sajous, M.D. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co. 1896.
- A Manual of Surgical Treatment. By W. W. Cheyne, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., and F. F. Burghard, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. In six parts. Part I. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1899. 10s. 6d.
- Eastbourne and its Health Resort. By C. Roberts, F.R.C.S. London: Bale, Sons, and Danielsson. 1899. 1s.
- Bad Nauheim, its Springs and their Uses. By J. Groedel, M.D. Second Edition. Friedberg and Bad Nauheim. 1899.
- Der erste Verband auf dem Schlachtfelde. Von F. von Esmerich. Kiel und Leipzig: Lipsius und Tischer. 1899. M 0.50.
- Deutsches Archiv für klinische Medicin. 64. Band. Festschrift zur Feier des 100 Jährigen Bestehens der Medicinischen Klinik zu Leipzig. Leipzig: F. C. W. Vogel. 1899.
- Recherches sur les Matières Colorantes dz Foie et de la Bile et sur le Fer Hépatique. Par MM. A. Dastre et N. Floresco. Paris: G. Steinhilf. 1899. Fr. 6.
- Victor von Richter's Organic Chemistry, or Chemistry of the Carbon Compounds. Edited by Professor E. Anschutz. Authorised translation by E. F. Smith. Vol. I, Third American from Eighth German Edition. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner, and Co. 1899. 15s.
- Clinical Lectures on Neurosthenia. By T. D. Savill, M.D. London: H. J. Glaisner. 1899. 3s. 6d.
- Examination Questions in Practice of Medicine, with Answers. Part III, Fevers. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone. 1s.
- Handbuch der Krankenversorgung und Krankenpflege. Herausgegeben von Dr. G. Liebe. Dr. P. Jacobsohn, und Dr. G. Meyer. Zweiter Band, II Abteilung, I Lieferung. Berlin: A. Hirschwald. 1899. M. 9.
- The Flora of Kent. By F. J. Hanbury, F.L.S., and E. S. Marshall, M.A., F.L.S. London: F. J. Hanbury. 1899. 12s. 6d.

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