

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES and LETTERS forwarded for publication are understood to be offered to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL alone, unless the contrary be stated.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL are requested to communicate with the Manager, 429, Strand, W.C., on receipt of proof.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered are requested to look at the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

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IN order to avoid delay, it is particularly requested that ALL letters on the editorial business of the JOURNAL be addressed to the Editor at the Office of the JOURNAL, and not at his private house.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.—The telegraphic address of the EDITOR of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Atiology, London*. The telegraphic address of the MANAGER of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL is *Articulate, London*.

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

QUERIES.

M. E. asks for information as to the vision of shorthand writers, or for references to literature on this subject.

LIPOMA OF LABIUM.

SCOTIA asks: What is the simplest method of dealing with a lipoma (of labium) weighing about half a pound, with long narrow pedicle? Would a local anaesthetic suffice, and what one would be advisable?

SOLUTION OF SODIUM CACODYLATE.

ARSENIC asks for a formula which would enable the hypodermic solution to be more concentrated. The only formula he has seen, and that which he uses, requires the injection of 15 minims to administer a full dose, and is, he is informed, troublesome to prepare.

POTASSAE PRUSSIAS FLAVA: YELLOW PRUSSIAN OF POTASH: FERRO-CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM.

F.R.C.S. asks: Many old practitioners administer internally the above drug in cases where hydrocyanic acid is indicated. Would any correspondent kindly state what is the dose, and whether in his experience it is more efficacious than the acid? It is well known to be poisonous, and the standard test for iron, forming Prussian blue.

ANSWERS.

DR. J. J.—The matter is, we think, one which must be settled by the churches, and does not, under all the circumstances, appear to be suitable for discussion in a medical journal.

LATERAL INCISION OF THE PERINEUM.

DR. HEYWOOD SMITH (Harley Street, W.) writes: In answer to "G. C." I write to say I have on several occasions carried out this method where the perineum has been in imminent danger of tearing, and with complete success. The incisions can be made with a blunt-pointed pair of scissors about an inch or so from the fourchette to the depth of about half an inch. They need no sutures, and rapidly heal up. I have seen no ill after-effects.

TREATMENT OF MUCOUS COLITIS.

PUZZLED invites suggestions for the treatment of a severe case of mucous colitis complicated with rectal prolapse. Some benefit has been obtained from copious injections of 2 per cent. ichthyol solutions.

** Large injections of various weak antiseptic solutions may be tried, such as sodium hyposulphite 5 per cent., tincture of benzoin 15 per cent., boric acid 3 or 4 per cent. (Dauchez), 1½ or 2 pints at a temperature of 100° F., being introduced on alternate days. Mathieu recommends also large enemata of boiled water, weak solutions of sodium salicylate, or the neutral ichthyolate of ammonia, with castor oil and belladonna by the mouth, and a non-irritating diet. For the dysenteriform attacks weak solutions of silver nitrate may be injected, and for haemorrhage the hamamelis preparations.

LETTERS, NOTES, Etc.

ERRATUM.—In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of February 8th, p. 356, col. 1, line 32, Dr. C. Sanders is said to have questioned "the utility of the notification of small-pox." The latter word, as the context shows, should have been "chicken-pox."

THE REGISTRATION OF MIDWIVES.

DR. R. R. RENTOUL (Liverpool) asks us to state that the leaflet prepared by him, entitled *Reasons against the (so-called) Registration of Midwives* can be obtained from Messrs. Meek, Thomas and Co., Cable Street, Liverpool, at 6s. per 100.

A CASE OF ASCITES.

MR. JOHN DAVIES (Surgeon, Bath Lying-in Charity), writes: [C. O., aged 53, a strongly-built, healthy-looking man of the country yeoman type, by occupation a master cabman, described himself as a

moderate drinker of malt liquor only, but admitted that at times he substituted this for a more solid meal, he was first visited on account of an epileptic fit, apparently the only one he ever had. In September, 1891, he found some difficulty in getting up and down from his cab and complained of a distended feeling in his bowels which he likened to water rolling and splashing from side to side. A month after being treated internally for ascites he was aspirated; this was in October, 1896, and from this date until October, 1900 he was aspirated regularly every three weeks at first, later every fortnight, and ultimately every nine days, making a total of 150 tapplings. At first twelve to fourteen quarts were drawn at each sitting by Southey's tube, but the quantity lessened towards the end, though the total amount removed was over 250 gallons. The tapping lasted from October, 1896, to October, 1900, when he died of cardiac failure. Features in the course of the case were oedema of the right leg, which cleared up and was followed by a similar condition of the left leg, and thrombosis of the superficial abdominal veins on the right side.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, ETC., have been received from

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BOOKS, Etc., RECEIVED.

Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London. Vol. XX. Session 1900-1901. London: Shaw and Sons, 1901.

Outlines of Anatomy. By E. W. Holmes. A. B. M.D. Lancaster, Pa.: New Era Printing Co., 1902.

Recherches Cliniques et Thérapeutiques sur l'Épilepsie, l'Hystérie et l'Idiotie. Par Bourneville. Vol. XXI. Paris: Félix Alcan, 1901. Frs. 6.

Atlas of Practical Elementary Zoology. By G. B. Howes, LL.D., F.R.S. London: Macmillan and Co., 1902. 10s.

Contribucion al Estudio de la Anisajesta Quirúrica por Inyeccion Lumbar Sub-Araconóidea de Coccina (Rauquococainización). Por Aurelio Melean C. Santiago de Chile. Litografía i Encuadernacion Turin, 1901.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Vol. XXXVII. London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 1902.

An International System of Electro-Therapeutics. Edited by H. R. Bigelow, M.D. Second Edition edited by G. B. Massey, M.D. London: Henry Kimpton, 1902. 25s.

Baldness and Greyness: Their Etiology, Pathology, and Treatment. By T. Robinson, M.D. Fourth Edition. London: H. Kimpton, 1902. 2s. 6d.

The Fish River Bush, South Africa, and its Wild Animals. By W. T. Black, M.R.C.S., L.S.A., Edinburgh and London: Young J. Pentland, 1901.

Studies in the Psychology of Sex: Sexual Inversion. By Havelock Ellis. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co., 1901. 2 dols.

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Each additional line	0	0	6
A whole column	1	17	6
A page	5	5	0

An average line contains six words.

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