had been received, before the ligature, so widely recognised as valuable, had been removed, if the position of the snake bite had admitted of a ligature being applied, and even before the tissues surrounding the wound had been excised.

These and other directions accompany a supply of cobra antivenene which has been sent to India.

As it may be of interest to members of the Section, the antivenene is now placed before them in the two forms in which it has been prepared. The first is in liquid form usual in serum therapeutics. The second is the blood serum dried in vacuo over sulphuric acid, in which state it has the appearance of bright, translucent, orange-yellow fragments or scales. This dry antivenene is readily soluble in water, and it retains unimpaired the original antidotal power of the liquid antivenene. It therefore has obvious advantages over the liquid preparation, as regards carriage and storage.

In the dry state 11.5 parts represent 100 parts of the liquid serum, so that about 2.3 grammes would represent 20 c.c.m. of liquid antivenene. It will probably be found that 20 c.c.m. is a sufficient initial dose, which, however, should be repeated in half an hour or an hour, and even a third or fourth dose be administered, according to the condition of the patient.

It appears to me necessary to state, in conclusion, that however efficacious this antivenene may prove in a certain, and probably in a considerable number of cases, I am not prepared to anticipate that, as in all other instances of antitoxins, whether chemical or pharmacological, cases of snake bite will occur in which the antivenene cannot prove successful, it may be, because too large a lethal dose of venom has been used, or because the interval between the reception of the venom and the administration of the antivenene has been too long a time to admit of successful treatment.

As the dose of venom injected by a snake must always be an unknown one, an accidental occurrence of unfavourable cases may be expected to occur. It is probable that in the antivenene, and therefore it is that a valuable further purpose is served by such experiments as those I have referred to, for they not only indicate the existence of limitations to the antidotal power of antivenene, but, at the same time, they prove by the most conclusive evidence that antivenene is a valuable, or at least a very valuable, aid in the treatment of the bite of poisonous serpents.

Professor Stocky's (Amsterdam) was much interested in the possible effects of the epidermic application of antivenene. He stated that in the Dutch colonies it is customary for the snake catchers to prepare themselves before starting by rubbing all over their skin a powder made from the dried heads and poison glands of the snake. As a result of this precaution they either are not bitten, or they are rendered immune against the effects of bites.

**SECTION OF LARYNGOLOGY: A CORRECTION.**

In the summary of the proceedings in the Section of Laryngology of July 31st, in the notice of Dr. Rilien Russell’s paper on abductor centres in the corona, it should have been stated that stimulation of one of these centres always resulted in abduction of both vocal cords, not, as stated, in abduction of the corresponding cord only.

**SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.—Mr. Wm. G. Loveridge, Public Vaccinator for the Humber-on-Border District of the Lincolnshire and Border Union, has been awarded the Government grant for successful vaccination in his district.**

**DR. JOHN B. MURPHY (of Chicago), whose name is well known to surgeons in connection with the "button" introduced by him for intestinal anastomosis, has been elected President of the American National Association of Railway Surgeons.**

**IGNORANT ANTIVACCINATORS.—Dr. Edwards publishes in the *Lincolnshire Echo* and the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* excellent replies to the ignorant tirade of Mr. Williams against vaccination. The appearance of such replies is extremely desirable and useful. Hitherto antivaccination letter writers have had too much their own way, and have succeeded only too well in poisoning the public mind.**