

## NERVOUS DEBILITY.

WE presume our correspondent wishes to ascertain where the Weir-Mitchell treatment for neurasthenia can be carried out. Any good nursing institution in Lancashire or Yorkshire would probably be able to supply the requisite nursing, which should be conducted under medical supervision. He might communicate with the Superintendent of the Hospital Trained Nurses' Institution, 70, Hope Street, Liverpool.

## BOOKS FOR FEVER NURSES.

PHYSICIAN SUPERINTENDENT.—*Fevers and Infectious Diseases, their Nursing and Practical Management*, W. Harding, M.D. Published by the Scientific Press (rs.). *On Fevers, etc.*, by Alex. Collicie, M.D. Published by Lewis (8s. 6d.). *Treatise on Continued Fevers of Great Britain*, C. Murchison, M.D. Longman and Green (38s.).

## CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES.

r. W.—It cannot be said that a consanguineous marriage such as our correspondent refers to is ever "advisable." Whether or not it is permissible would depend on the individual hereditary tendencies of the parties concerned. If they are likely to neutralise each other a favourable answer might be returned, but if the morbid proclivities would probably be intensified, then the reverse. Before a categorical answer could be given in regard to the case in point it would be necessary to know the family and personal history, not only of A., B., and C., but also of C.'s first husband; and it would be well to know what are the respective ages of H. and L.

## NOTES, LETTERS, Etc.

## EDUCATIONAL NUMBER: CORRECTIONS.

IN the notice of the opening of the medical schools, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 25th, p. 516, it should have been stated that Dr. W. B. Cheadle will preside at the annual dinner of St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, to be given at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole, on October 3rd. The winter session of the University of Birmingham and the University College of South Wales will open on Monday, October 1st and 8th respectively, and not October 18th and 1st as printed last week. By an error in making up the JOURNAL the University of Durham was placed after the Victoria University instead of in its proper order of historical precedence after the University of London.

ERRATA.—In a paragraph entitled The University of London, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of August 18th, p. 440, "Mr." should have been "Mrs." Bryant. In a letter on the Medical Service in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, published in the same issue, p. 457, the signature should have been "Jas. F. D. Macara," not "Jos." as printed. We take this opportunity of reminding correspondents that they will greatly assist us by writing; their names as distinctly as possible.

## TREATMENT OF CORNS.

DR. F. SMITH (Hove) returns best thanks for suggested remedies for corns on sole of foot. Most of the suggestions have been tried. The corns being over the metatarsophalangeal joints of the great and little toes of each foot seems to increase the difficulty, and lead to the conclusion that of the suggested remedies operation would be the most efficacious.

DR. THOMAS HAYES (Rathkeale, Co. Limerick), writes: It may interest your readers to add one more remedy to the list of "Cure for Corns." After an experience of thirty years I can recommend it for universal application, a boon especially to the soldier, a radical remedy if diligently persevered in, producing on its first application relief from pain and pressure a pulpy condition of the corn, and by occasional gentle scraping its ultimate disappearance. The remedy consists in the application of a fold or two of wet lint next the corn covered with a piece of sheet gutta-percha or oiled silk over which the stocking can be drawn. This may be removed at night and the pulpy corn scraped with a blunt knife and the application renewed every morning. It may be used also by soldiers on long marches to anticipate undue pressure and the development of corns. The remedy was suggested to me 30 years ago by the following incident. A poor woman came to the dispensary suffering from severe bronchitis. She got cold from wearing goloshes as she could not wear shoes or boots in consequence of many corns on both feet. The corns were cured, but the cold feet led to bronchitis. I was impressed by the fact and adopted the suggestion, applying lint and gutta-percha tissue to keep the corn soft and pulpy, and its total disappearance by occasional scraping. I find, after all, that I cannot lay claim to this as an original remedy, for among many remedies mentioned in "Cooper's Dictionary" "a piece of green oilskin" is recommended.

## THE ARTHUR DAVIS TESTIMONIAL.

DR. GARRETT HORDER (Cardiff) writes: You were good enough to insert a letter from me with regard to a testimonial to Dr. D. Arthur Davies (the late Honorary Secretary of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Branch), and perhaps you will allow me to mention that it is proposed to close the fund at the end of the present month.

## PREVENTION OF FLOODING.

P. M. writes: In midwifery practice I have for many years given extract of ergot and laudanum, half a drachm of each, just before or after the birth of the child. I believe flooding has never occurred except when this dose has been accidentally omitted. The opium is probably as important in securing contraction as the ergot, and prevents after-pains, at least partially. I have never known any harm result. "Zephyr" need have no hesitation in adopting the practice.

## EGG FLIP.

DR. T. DOBSON POOLE (Wolverhampton) writes: There are quite a number of medical men and nurses who do not know the following method of making egg flip. It has advantages over the method of using a fork, both as to time and the fact that there is no after-taste of egg due to the imperfect beating up.

Take a recently-deposited egg and, after breaking it, remove the

chalazae. This is easily done by first breaking the egg into a saucer. The contents of the egg are then poured into a tumbler, or the egg may at first be broken into the tumbler, but in this case the chalazae are less easily removed. Now take a clean sheet of note paper and place it over the top of the tumbler as if to seal its contents, after the fashion of sealing a glass of marmalade, then with a serviette keep the note paper tightly in position over the tumbler which is thus enveloped by the serviette. The contents of the tumbler being now perfectly secure are shaken quickly and forcibly upwards and downwards for about a minute, after which the serviette and note paper are removed, when it will be found that the egg is thoroughly disintegrated. Sugar, milk, and some alcoholic flavouring agent, such as whisky or wine, are then added and stirred up with a spoon.

## ORAL SEPSIS.

DR. E. P. HARDEY (Hull) writes: As an illustration of the truth insisted upon in Dr. Hunter's paper in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of July 28th, I may relate briefly a case lately seen by me: A peculiarly strong woman, whom I had known for years, the wife of a cabman, came to me with pyorrhoea alveolaris. I urged the removal of the offending tooth, and prescribed for the pain, with temporary relief. After a short time I was asked to see her, and found the whole of the gums red, spongy, and acutely painful. Remedies seemed but of small benefit. The condition passed gradually into gangrene; the whole of the margin of the gums, upper and lower, turned black; there was horrible fetor, the submaxillary glands were greatly swollen, and the general condition one of septic poisoning. After a while, hæmorrhage occurred and the sloughs separated. Recovery was tedious, but she was ultimately able to go out. I again urged the removal of the tooth. In about a fortnight she came to me looking ill, and complaining of a sore on the edge of the tongue near the tooth. A few days after I was urgently sent for, and found her with a temperature of 104°, pulse over 130, and very rapid respiration. On looking in the mouth, the whole of the right side of the tongue was black with gangrene, also a corresponding portion of gum, with a patch on the inner surface of the cheek. She died in two days with symptoms of septic pneumonia.

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

A. A. M. R.; Mr. N. Alcock, Ballybrack. B. Mr. W. F. Brook, Swansea; Mr. L. A. Bidwell, London. C. Mr. A. Cooper, London; Dr. W. Calwell, Belfast; Dr. D. Carmichael, Boddam; Mr. R. Charley, Morecombe; Climate; Dr. W. H. Corfield, Bexhill. D. Messrs. Down Bros., London; Dr. T. Dutton, London; Dr. R. Davies, Cheltenham; Director-General A.M.S., London. E. Enquirer; Dr. John Edgar, Glasgow; Examiner. F. Mr. J. S. Ferns, Uxbridge; Dr. J. T. Fox, Strathpeffer Spa; W. W. Fyfe, M.B., Johnstone; Dr. W. F. Farquharson, Carlisle. G. Mr. J. T. M. Giffen, Chester; Dr. F. W. Goodbody, London. H. Dr. T. A. Helme, Manchester; Mr. E. Hurwatt, London; Dr. E. H. Hill, London; Miss Henderson, London; W. H. Heard, M.B., Wynberg; Mr. J. T. Harthill, Willenhall; Dr. W. M. Hamilton, Patricroft; Mr. J. J. Hemming, Margate. I. In Indis. J. Mr. R. Johnson, London; J. D. K. Mr. W. J. C. Keats, London. L. Dr. J. A. Lindsay, Belfast; Lieutenant-Colonel A.M.S.; Mr. P. A. Longhurst, London; Levite; Mr. A. Leche, Axbridge; Lafleur; Dr. T. Ligertwood, London; Mr. J. L. Langman, London. M. M.D.; M.O., R.N.; Mexico; Dr. A. Macphail, Montreal; Mr. P. E. Miall, Bradford; Dr. W. E. Miller, London; Dr. J. E. Moorhouse, Stirling; Military Secretary, India Office, London; T. C. Mackenzie, M.B., Edinburgh; A. J. McCallum, M.B., Kendal; Member; Member of the London and Counties Medical Protection Society, Limited. N. Mr. H. F. Nolan, Charing. O. Observer. P. Mr. E. H. D. Pope, Belfast; Mr. C. Y. Pearson, Cork; Dr. J. Priestley, Lee-on-the-Solent; Dr. C. B. Plowright, King's Lynn; Dr. J. F. Payne, London; Mr. J. Plummer, Sydney; Dr. L. H. Pegler, London; Dr. W. H. Park, Soochow; Dr. W. R. Parker, Kendal. R. Dr. R. Rorie, Cardenden; Mrs. A. Robinson, London. S. Mr. W. Stewart, Lynton; Dr. F. N. G. Starr, Toronto; Mr. E. Stirling, Johannesburg; Mr. W. A. Satchell, Ealing; Sir J. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mildred E. Staley, M.B., Delhi; The Scientific Press, London; W. E. Smith, M.B., Adelaide; Surgeon-Major A.M.B. (retired), London; Mr. F. Smith, Hove; Surgeon-General Stewart, Lynton; Scalpel; Somerset; Messrs. Street and Co., London. V. Mr. G. Vickers, London. W. Mr. F. F. White, Coventry; Mrs. Warden, St. Leonards; Dr. J. Wheatley, Blackburn; Dr. J. Wyllie, Hull; Mr. T. B. Whitelaw, Tydesley, etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Transactions of the Sixth International Assouan as a Health Resort. By W. E. Otological Congress, London, August 8th to 12th, 1899. Edited by E. Cresswell Baber. London: Southern Publishing Company, 1900. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, and Co., 1900, 1s. 6d.  
Selected Essays and Monographs (from foreign sources). By various authors. London: The New Sydenham Society, 1900.  
M. S.

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