

LETTERS, NOTES, Etc.

A CORRECTION.

MR. ALBAN DORAN writes: In the report of the communication on sloughing fibroid of the left uterine cornu showing abnormal relations read by Dr. Cuthbert Lockyer and myself at the November meeting of the Obstetrical Society of London (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 16th, p. 1472), "its blood-pointed outer extremity" should have read "its blunt-pointed outer extremity." There was no question of hæmorrhage, old or recent—an important point in a case where the cause of the necrotic change was so obscure. Hence the correction of an error liable to mislead is of importance.

THE PREVENTION OF ENTERIC FEVER IN ARMIES.

In the report of Dr. Canney's paper, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of November 16th, p. 1478, the amount of transport to be carried daily to Bloemfontein should have been given as 500 tons, and not as there printed. A full report of the lecture and discussion will, we are informed, be published in the *Journal of the Royal United Service Institution* for December.

THE TREATMENT OF SEA SICKNESS.

DR. PERCY MCDUGALL (Manchester) writes, calling attention to the treatment of sea-sickness by hypodermic injections of strychnine and atropine (recommended by Skinner in the *New York Medical Journal* for December, 1893.) From an experience of 50 cases he believes that the method will always give relief, if not cure. An injection of gr. $\frac{1}{16}$ strychnine sulphate and gr. $\frac{1}{16}$ atropine sulphate should be given at the first onset of discomfort or even just before embarking. In some cases the strychnine may be increased to gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ with benefit, and the injection may be repeated every 12 hours or less. The same drugs in the same doses may be taken by the mouth, but are less efficient. The symptoms of sea-sickness point to depression of the circulation, and it seems probable that any general stimulant that could be given without irritating the stomach would be of benefit.

MR. H. NORMAN BARNETT, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Knock, co. Down) writes in support of the endolymph theory of the causation of sea-sickness, and to express the opinion that the good effects of the bromides is proof of cerebral origin. The fact that those who are accustomed to ocean travel without being sea-sick are frequently made so by the motion of a coasting vessel is, he considers, another point in proof, as the endolymph is here subjected to quite a different motion. More harmony in the theories might, he thinks, be attained were greater stress laid on the fact of the movements of the endolymph being the primary cause, "stomach" symptoms, which are no doubt prominent later on, being regarded as secondary.

DR. R. P. S. BOWKER (Maesteg) writes against the endolymph theory. He believes that gastric disturbance is alone concerned, as he has found bromides absolutely useless or even harmful in the condition. He trusts to the method of purgation, followed by gastric sedatives such as bismuth and morphine. He writes: During the voyage home from Australia a few months back a lady became very exhausted, and her condition very serious owing to the continual vomiting, and after trying all the usual drugs, I gave her 2-minimal doses of ipecacuanha wine every hour, and her condition at once improved, and she suffered no more from sea-sickness during the rest of the voyage. I can scarcely believe that the ipecacuanha wine brought about this improvement in her condition.

THE "SEA SICKNESS" OF SEA BIRDS.

DR. T. ARCHIBALD DUKES (Croydon) writes, in reference to the fact that sea birds when caught and brought on deck often vomit: The huge albatross need not be accused of "the habit of disgorging.....to more powerful adversaries." It is caught with a hook and dragged over the surface of the water to the ship. During the process the gull involuntarily swallows much sea-water, which soon produces emesis. If the bird can manage to keep its head above water all the while, as I have noticed, it is not sick. A tumbler of sea-water is an old seaman's cure for sea-sickness: and undoubtedly when a patient can summon sufficient resolution to drink half-a-pint he soon overcomes his trouble.

NURSING IN INFIRMARIES IN IRELAND.

DR. GEORGE ST. GEORGE (County Antrim Infirmary, Lisburn) writes: In the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of November 16th re nursing in infirmaries, at the meeting of the Poor-law Conference in Belfast, Dr. W. Caldwell is reported to have said that he had examined the nurses in the Belfast and Lisburn Infirmaries. It might be supposed, therefore, that the Lisburn Infirmary was a Union one. He meant the co. Antrim Infirmary, Lisburn, as he is one of the examiners for the certificate issued to nurses there after a three years training in the wards. The nurses in the Lisburn Union hospital are not examined, nor do they receive lectures on nursing. I may refer you to the report of your Commissioner re Union hospitals in Ireland, where she says that the co. Antrim Infirmary is quite equal to any of the smaller provincial hospitals in England, and recommends the Poor-law Guardians of Lisburn to copy it in their Union hospital. The question of the nurses' training I would rather leave to my medical confrères.

LETTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, Etc., have been received

A. A. G. P. Mr. J. P. Bush, C.M.G., Clifton; Mr. G. Brown, London; J. P. Brown, M.B., Manchester; Dr. A. J. Boyd, Ware; Mr. E. J. Bland, London; Mr. G. S. Bigg, London; Mr. G. H. Broadbent, Manchester; Dr. F. Bushnell, Plymouth; Mr. D. Biddle, Kingston-on-Thames; Mr. L. A. Bidwell, London; Miss C. S. Bremner, Florence; Mr. R. J. M. Buchanan, Liverpool; Mr. A. Baldwin, London; Mr. A. S. Barling, Lancaster; E. H.; Messrs. Baron and Co., London; Mr. W. M. Beaumont, Bath; Dr. J. Brathwaite, Leeds; Dr. W. Bruce, Dingwall; Dr. J. B. Brierley, Manchester; E. G. Bull, M.B., Birmingham. Mr. J. S. Cotman, London; Mr. H. W. Carson, London; Civil Surgeon; J. J. Clarke, M.B., London; Dr. E. Cautley, London;

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BOOKS, Etc., RECEIVED.

- Impressions of a Doctor in Khaki. By F. E. Premaunt, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. M.R.C.P. London: John Murray. 1901. 2s. 6d.
- Studies in Heterogenesis. By H. O. Bastian, M.A., M.D., F.R.S. Part I. London: Williams and Norgate. 1901. 7s. 6d.
- The Transactions of the Edinburgh Obstetrical Society. Vol. XXVII. Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd. 1901.
- The Septic System of the Ocean and the Septic Tank System at Exeter. By "Circumlocution." London: "The Public Health Engineer" Office. 1s.
- The Care of the Consumptive. By C. F. Gardiner, M.D. London and New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1900.
- International Säphrentafel für Kinder. Von Dr. E. Heilmann. Berlin: H. Kornfeld. 1902. M. 2.
- Ferments and their Actions. By C. Oppenheimer, M.D., Ph.D. Translated by G. A. Mitchell, B.A., F.I.C. London: C. Griffin and Co. 1901. 7s. 6d.
- Diagnostik der Harnkrankheiten. Von Dr. C. Posner. Dritte Auflage. Berlin: A. Hirschwald. 1902. M. 4.
- On the Cure of the Morphia Habit without Suffering. By O. Jennings, M.D., M.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1901. 2s. 6d.
- Recepttaschenbuch für Kinderkrankheiten von Dr. O. Seifert. Vierte Auflage. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 3s. 3d.
- Menstruation and its Disorders. By A. E. Giles, M.D., B.Sc., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. London; Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1901. 2s. 6d.
- Grundriss der Kinderheilkunde mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Diätetik. Von Dr. O. Hanser. Zweite Auflage. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 8s.
- Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Lungentuberculose. Herausgegeben von Dr. E. Meisen. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 4s. 9d.
- Zur pathologischen Anatomie des kindlichen Alters. Von Dr. A. Steffen. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 8s.
- Der Einfluss des Alkohols auf den Organismus. Von Dr. G. Rosenfeld. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 8s.
- Morphologie und Mechanismus der Skoliose. Von Dr. J. Riedinger. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 4s.
- Die griechischen Götter und die menschlichen Missgeburten. Von Dr. Schatz. Wiesbaden; J. F. Bergmann and Glasgow: F. Bauermeister. 1901. 2s. 6d.
- The Surgical Treatment of Disfigurements and Deformities of the Face. By J. B. Roberts, A.M., M.D. Second Edition. Philadelphia: Philadelphia Medical Publishing Co. 1901.
- On Some Aspects of Life. By J. Aikman, M.D. Guernsey: P. Clarke.

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