

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to the Manager, at the Journal Office, 161A, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

ARUM MACULATUM.

SIR,—As I do not see in any works of reference, inclusive of the *BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL* for the last five years, any case quoted showing the poisonous nature of the *Arum maculatum*, commonly called "lords and ladies", the following account of a fatal case may be of interest to readers.

On Saturday, April 9th, I was called at 6.35 A.M. to attend M. A. M., a girl, four years old. I attended at 7.15 A.M., and found her dead; the skin mottled all over, rigor mortis setting in, and the body nearly cold. She was reported to have died at 5.30 A.M. The history was that she came in from play at 3.30 P.M. on Friday, complaining of being tired. Her mother laid her down, and she slept at once. At 5.30, she awoke, and took some tea with milk; immediately she vomited some thin milky substance, and went to bed, when she slept somewhat restlessly until 10.30 P.M., when she awoke with vomiting and severe purging; this continued with pain until 5 A.M., when she had a slight convulsion, and actually died at 5.30, though her mother thought she had only fallen asleep, and had to be enlightened by a neighbour.

On the coroner's order, I made a *post mortem* examination on Sunday, thirty hours after death. Rigor mortis had nearly passed off. All the organs were healthy and normal, except that the bases of both lungs were congested. The heart was empty in both ventricles, and firmly contracted. The stomach and small intestines were thickly coated with a creamy lining of mucus, with bile; no blood. The stomach further contained half an inch of the fatal leaf; there was also found about as much in one of the stools, and probably more was passed. This, with the firmly contracted heart, constituted the chief confirmatory evidence of the irritant nature of the poison which caused death.

The parents regarded the illness as a bad attack of biliousness, and were not alarmed until the child was actually moribund. The child had been warned by another older girl not to eat the plant, but had persisted.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
A. J. ALLIOTT, M.D. Cantab. and M.R.C.S.E.

St. John's, Sevenoaks, April 14th, 1881.

MR. J. C. PARSONS, Guernsey.—The method of administering protoxide of nitrogen under pressure is that devised by M. Paul Bert. An apartment is constructed for the purpose, of the nature of a diving-bell, and in this are placed the patient and operator. A full account is given in Dr. Rottenstein's treatise, *Sur L'Anesthésie*, especially written by him, as a dentist, for dentistry.

A CLINICAL DIFFICULTY.

SIR,—Will you kindly have the notes of the following case printed in your *JOURNAL*, as I very much wish to have the opinion of some of the members upon it?

I first saw a little girl, aged five years and three months, on March 11th, 1881, with all the typical signs of jaundice, viz., the conjunctivæ, and the whole surface of the skin, yellow; high coloured urine (like beer), and a firm white motion. She had been ailing for about a fortnight with a cold, which the parents thought would pass off; became much worse the last four days, with headache and anorexia, etc. She was not subject to worms, and had no cough or tightness of the breath. I ordered sulphate of magnesia, and tincture of rhubarb every four hours, and three grains of hydrargyrum cum creta at night.

On the 13th, at 10 A.M., I was sent for, as the child was much worse. She had been very restless and excited during the night, throwing her arms about, drinking eagerly, and biting the spoon, and was with difficulty kept in bed. On my visit, she was in a semicomatose condition, with the pupils widely dilated, and the conjunctivæ partially sensible to the touch. She could swallow. The bowels had not been opened since the previous morning. I administered a powder of jalapine, calomel, and ipecacuanha. At 4 P.M., she was much worse; pulseless, unconscious, with stertorous breathing. There was no action of the bowels. She died at half-past five.

I should very much like to have the opinion of members on the above case, and the following questions, viz.: What were the probable causes of the jaundice, and of the supervision of the comatose condition? And what was the correct treatment?—I am, sir, yours truly,
F. H. THOMPSON.

Clebury Mortimer, Salop.

SIR,—I have been attending the sister of a clergyman who is taking temporary duty, and has no church preferment of his own. Their father was a medical man, and died some years ago. These two have always lived together; and I know they have some private means of their own. Are they entitled to gratuitous attendance? I enclose my card.—I am, etc.,
RUSTICUS.

* Rusticus would be justified in charging for attendance.

CHRONIC PSORIASIS.

SIR,—In reply to the query of "Cutis", for treatment in a case of chronic psoriasis, I would recommend a trial of ten minims of Fowler's solution in an ounce of decoction of cinchona, three times daily; and externally, chrysophanic acid ointment in the proportions of 1 to 10. It should be well rubbed in night and morning.—I am, etc.,
A. W. WOODMAN-DOWDING, M.B., Clinical Assistant
in the Skin-Disease Department, London Hospital.

SIR,—If "Cutis" will try the mixture of potassa sulphurata and Fowler's solution of arsenic as an internal remedy, and use chrysophanic acid ointment externally, well rubbed in till it causes a tendency to inflammation, and then substitute "huile de Cade", he will, I think, get good results. At all events, it cured a most inveterate case that came under my care, after having been getting worse and worse under various treatments at a hospital. The sufferer was literally covered from her chin to her insteps. I began by giving three grains of potassa sulphurata, and three minims of liquor potassæ arsenitis in an ounce of water, three times a day; and as I found it borne well, increased the dose of potassa sulphurata to eight grains and the arsenic to ten minims; and had the satisfaction of seeing the case perfectly cured in a few months. Two years afterwards, she had a relapse; but by taking it in time, it was soon cured, and this spring she again came with it out rather fully; and again, in two or three weeks, it was cured.—Yours truly,
Nayland, Colchester, April 7th, 1881.
H. W. PALMER.

P.S.—Chrysophanic acid I have found excellent in eczema marginatum, but I never use it on a patient who is highly strumous, as I have seen it produce impetiginous eczema of scalp and great pain in that class of patients. I always have it made with vaseline.

DR. R. LORD.—Apply to the Secretary, Miss F. Lankester, 44, Berners Street, W.

THE SPELTHORNE SANITORIUM.

SIR,—A short time since, the attention of the committee of the Spelthorne Sanatorium was drawn to a notice in your *JOURNAL* of the value of the work being done in this institution. In consequence of this notice, the lady superintendent received, and still continues to receive, telegrams and applications for the admission of men. The committee will, therefore, feel greatly obliged if you will kindly insert this letter, explaining that the Spelthorne Sanatorium is for the reformation of women only. The home has been opened two years last January.—I beg to remain, faithfully yours,
EDMUND E. ANTROBUS, Chairman.

14, Kensington Palace Gardens, April 15th, 1881.

MR. W. J. SQUARE (Plymouth).—Our correspondent's friend would probably be able to obtain a degree in medicine, of excellent repute, at either of the Scottish universities—Edinburgh, Glasgow, or Aberdeen. One year's attendance on the lectures in either of these would be sufficient; and the study at a medical school up to the present time would be recognised. Application should be made to the Secretary at either of these universities for the regulations under which degrees are granted.

NOISELESS COAL-BOXES.

SIR,—Mr. Gillespie's invention is one that will approve itself to many. To those who are not in a position to command the luxuries of the sick-room, a simpler expedient, that I have often resorted to with a similar object, is worth remembering. Wrap about half a scoopful of coal in a piece of newspaper, and repeat this until the scuttle is full. The fire can thus be replenished from time to time without the least noise or rattle, and without soiling the fingers. The little packets may be placed bodily on the fire, or the paper unfolded and the coals gently distributed.—Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR W. EDIS.

THE LATE MR. MERRIMAN.

With regard to the obituary on Mr. John Merriman in our last number, Mr. J. Jones Merriman sends the following correction of an error.

"It was Mr. Merriman's brother, Dr. James N. Merriman, who shared with him and their father the appointment to the Queen; and, in 1861, he was joined in the partnership by Mr. Arthur Roberts (cousin of Sir Frederick Roberts, the hero of Candahar), who still remains in the firm."

FLUKE IN SHEEP.

SIR,—As this disease is very prevalent just now, I would be glad to have the opinion of some members as to whether the meat of animals suffering from it should be condemned: 1. in the early stages; 2. after the animal's health has become manifestly impaired. As an example, I may mention a case in which the aggregate weight of three carcasses of sheep exposed for sale was only 6½ stone. The livers were full of "flukes". As the subject is an important one, and, as far as I am aware, not clearly settled in any of the text-books, I am anxious to obtain the opinions of some members whose experience may enable them to throw light on it, especially with regard to the stage of the disease in which the meat ought to be condemned.—Yours faithfully,
M.B.

ERRATA.—In Dr. Bugnion's paper at page 382 of the *JOURNAL* for March 12th, the following corrections are required. In the heading, for "Geneva", read "Lausanne". In the third paragraph, line 8, for "three pairs", read "two pairs". In the fifth paragraph, line 2, for "126.18", read "12 to 18". In column 2, line 34, for "hæmatoid", read "nematoid".

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:—

Mr. Holmes, London; Mr. S. C. Smith, Halifax; Mr. J. T. Neville, Dublin; Dr. Moxon, London; S. H.; Mr. F. G. Barnett, Bristol; Dr. Wade, Birmingham; Mr. T. M. Stone, London; Inspector-General R.N.; Mr. Reginald Pratt, Bath; Mr. Arthur Flint, London; Mr. G. M. Kay, Bishop Auckland; Dr. Underhill, Edinburgh; Mr. A. Kelsey, Redhill; Dr. W. O. Markham, London; Mr. A. G. Young, Mountmorris; Dr. Lindsay, Lesmahagow; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. Richard Jeffreys, Chesterfield; Dr. Julius Althaus, London; Dr. Holman, Reigate; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. R. Lockhart Lawson, London; Mr. Harvey, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Dr. Laffan, Cashel; Mr. Sankey, Oxford; Mr. John Appleyard, Bradford; Dr. Barron, Durham; Mr. Atkin, Sheffield; Miss Walker, Eastbourne; Dr. Gowers, London; Mr. Fitzsimon, London; Mr. Parkinson, Wimborne; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. Edmund E. Antrobus, London; Mr. Balmanno Squire, London; Dr. Edward Haughton, Upper Norwood; Dr. Sandby, Birmingham; Dr. W. V. Lush, Weymouth; Mr. G. Eastes, London; Dr. Greenfield, Edinburgh; Mr. Thomas Leeds, Balham; Dr. Galabin, London; Mr. W. J. Square, Plymouth; Dr. John D. Hillis, Carlisle; Corpus Sanum; J. J. Smith, London; Dr. M. W. Taylor, Penrith; Dr. H. H. Phillips, Reading; Mr. E. White Wallis, London; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Dr. Taggart, Antrim; Dr. W. A. Edwards, Mauritius; Mr. J. S. Sergeant, Brigg; Dr. James Braithwaite, Leeds; Mr. W. H. Beaumont, London; Mr. John Donald, Banff; Dr. T. Gelston Atkins, Cork; Dr. T. Trollope, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; Mr. C. E. James, Kilkenny; Dr. J. W. Wilson, Plymouth; Dr. A. C. Alliott, Sevenoaks; Mr. William Whysall, Grantham; Mr. J. Whitehouse, Smethwick; etc.

Scale of Charges for Advertisements in the "British Medical Journal".

Seven lines and under	..	..	..	..	..	..	£	0	3	6
Each additional line	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	4
A whole column	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	15	0
A page	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5	0

An average line contains eight words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

For 6 insertions, a deduction of	..	..	..	..	..	10 per cent.
" 12 or 13 "	"	"	"	"	"	20 "
" 26 "	"	"	"	"	"	25 "
" 52 "	"	"	"	"	"	30 "

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, at the Office, not later than Twelve o'Clock on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association, at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be sent in postage stamps.

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL:

Being the Journal of the British Medical Association.

No. 1060.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1881.

{Registered as
a Newspaper.} 6d.

Contents.

LUMLEIAN LECTURES on **BRIGHT'S DISEASE.** Delivered before the Royal College of Physicians. By REGINALD SOUTHEY, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician and Lecturer on Clinical and Forensic Medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Lecture II. Part II .. 625

The CROONIAN LECTURES on the **INFLUENCE of the CIRCULATION** upon the **NERVOUS SYSTEM.** Delivered before the Royal College of Physicians. By WALTER MOXON, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to Guy's Hospital. Lecture III. Part I .. 628

ABSTRACT of LECTURES on the **ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and ZOOLOGY of the CETACEA.** Delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. By W. H. FLOWER, F.R.S., LL.D., Hunterian Professor of Comparative Anatomy. Lecture II .. 632

The GULSTONIAN LECTURES on **ANÆMIA.** Delivered before the Royal College of Physicians. By SIDNEY COUPLAND, M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Middlesex Hospital. Lecture III. Part II .. 633

On **PARALYTIC CHOREA.** By W. R. GOWERS, M.D., F.R.C.P., Assistant Physician to University College Hospital, etc. .. 636

On **FRACTURE of the NECK of the HUMERUS as a COMPLICATION of DISLOCATION of the SHOULDER.** By E. H. BENNETT, M.D., Professor of Surgery in the University of Dublin, etc. .. 637

OBSTETRIC MEMORANDA. Version in Neglected Shoulder Presentation. By J. McNAUGHT, M.D.—A Fragment of Experience in the Frequent and Unfrequent Use of the Forceps. By G. ROGER, M.D.—Precocious Maternity. By HAYWOOD SMITH, M.D. .. 638

CLINICAL MEMORANDA. Gangrene of the Lower Extremity in a Newly-born Infant. By W. C. REED, M.D., Plymouth.—A Scarf-pin passed by a Child Eighteen Months old. By J. E. GARNER, M.B. .. 639

HOSPITAL REPORTS.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL. Belladonna-poisoning: Recovery (Mr. J. W. Bond) .. 639
KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL. Belladonna-poisoning: Violent Delirium: Recovery (Dr. Duffin).—Carbolic Acid poisoning: Death (Mr. Silk).—Oxalic Acid poisoning: Albuminuria: Recovery (Dr. Johnson) .. 640

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

ROYAL MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY. Vascular Protrusion of Eyeball.—Nephrectomy by Lumbar Section.—A Nasal Plug .. 641
PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. Cylindroma of Popliteal Space.—Cancer of the Rectum.—Villous Polypus of the Bladder.—Cirrhosis of the Liver in a Child.—Membranous Tracheitis from Impaction of a Nut-shell.—Specimens shown by card .. 642
CLINICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. Syphilitic Psoriasis of Face and Neck.—

Arterial Hæmatoma of the Fore-arm.—Meningocele.—Progressive Painful Inflammation of Arteries.—Nævoid Enlargement .. 643

OPHTHALMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN. Disease in Region of Yellow Spot in both Eyes.—Condition of the Discs Ten Years after Optic Neuritis.—Colour-Blindness .. 645

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON. The Influence of Fairs, Famines, etc. on the Development of Cholera in India .. 646

ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS PRACTISING DENTAL SURGERY. The Dental Licence.—Cases.—Rigg's Disease.—Jaw of a Dwarf .. 647

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF DUBLIN. Enormous Hypertrophy of Heart.—Multiple Tumours of Knee-Joint and Leg.—Unusual Mode of Death in Typhoid Fever.—Lumbar Caries.—Extra-articular Fracture of Patella.—Alternate Hemiplegia.—Palpebral Sarcoma.—Fracture of Upper Third of Fibula.—Epithelioma of Leg.—Caries of Ulnar.—Exudation into Pelvis of Kidney.—Valedictory Address from the Chair .. 647

REVIEWS & NOTICES.

Dr. S. W. GROSS. A Practical Treatise on Tumours of the Mammary Gland .. 648
Dr. H. THOMPSON. Clinical Lectures and Cases, with Commentaries .. 649
Dr. R. KOCH and Mr. WATSON CHEVRE. Investigations into the Etiology of Traumatic Infective Diseases .. 649
NOTES ON BOOKS .. 649

LEADING ARTICLES.

CONSULTATIONS WITH HOMEOPATHS .. 649

THE MEDICAL SERVICE IN THE FRENCH ARMY .. 650
TUBERCULOSIS and SCROFULA .. 651
A SMALL-POX HOSPITAL FOR MARLBOROUGH .. 652
THE LAST DAYS OF LORD BRACONSFIELD'S ILLNESS .. 653
THE PATHOLOGY OF GRANULAR KIDNEY .. 657
THE WEEK .. 653
THE WEEK. SCOTLAND .. 657
THE WEEK. IRELAND .. 658

THE CORONERSHIP OF CENTRAL MIDDLESEX .. 660
MR. DARWIN ON VIVISECTION .. 661
THE WAR IN THE TRANSVAAL .. 661

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE HELD .. 661
METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: East London and South Essex District.—**METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH:** North London District .. 662

CORRESPONDENCE .. 662
PUBLIC HEALTH & POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES .. 663

MILITARY & NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES .. 664
MEDICAL NEWS .. 665

OPERATION DAYS and HOURS of ATTENDANCE at the LONDON HOSPITALS .. 667
MEETINGS of SOCIETIES .. 668

LETTERS, NOTES, and ANSWERS to CORRESPONDENTS. Royal College of Surgeons of England.—Colonel Tottenham's Question and Irish Lunatic Asylums.—Fees for Medical Examinations for Insurance Offices, etc. .. 668

Second Edition, with 50 Illustrations, 8vo, 12s. 6d.

The Surgical Disorders of the URINARY ORGANS.

By REGINALD HARRISON, F.R.C.S.

1. Preliminary Remarks.
2. Surgical Anatomy of the Urethra.
3. Symptoms of Stricture.
4. Examination of the Urine.
5. Treatment of Stricture.
6. Urethral Fever.
7. Retention of Urine.
8. Internal Urethrotomy.
9. External Urethrotomy.
10. Syphilitic Strictures.
11. Consequences of Stricture.
12. Injuries to the Urethra.
13. Perineal Fistulae.
14. Foreign Bodies in the Urethra and Bladder.
15. Irritable Bladder.
16. Enlargement of the Prostate.
17. Inflammation of the Bladder.
18. Formation of Calculi.
19. Spontaneous Fracture of Calculi.
20. Calculous Disorders.
21. Symptoms of Stone.
22. Treatment of Stone.
23. Lithotripsy.—Litholapaxy.—Lithotomy.
24. Injuries to the Bladder.
25. Injuries to the Ureter and Kidney.
26. Surgery of the Kidney.
27. Tumours of the Bladder and Prostate.
28. Ulceration of the Bladder.
29. Circumcision—Deformities.
30. Varicocele—Radical Cure.

"It is impossible to read these Lectures without profit and interest."—*The Lancet*.

"One of the most valuable works upon the subject; well written, beautifully illustrated, and thoroughly practical throughout."—*London Specialist*.

"It is possible in these pages to ascertain the practical outcome of a large experience in this class of diseases, unencumbered by the ponderous results of the investigations of other observers which are to be found in all complete text-books of surgery. It is from this point of view that we have read Mr. Harrison's Lectures with great interest, and can cordially recommend them to the profession."—*Medical Times*.

London: J. & A. CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

Now ready, with Woodcuts, fcap. 8vo, 2s. 6d.

Ringworm: its Diagnosis and TREATMENT.

By ALDER SMITH, M.B.Lond., F.R.C.S., Resident Medical Officer, Christ's Hospital, London.
"Thoroughly practical and sound exposition of the diagnosis and treatment of the several kinds of common ringworm."—*Lancet*.

London: H. K. LEWIS, 136, Gower Street, W.C.

By S. O. HABERSHON, M.D.Lond., F.R.C.P., Late Senior Physician to, and Lecturer on Medicine at, Guy's Hospital.

3rd Ed., Revised & Enlarged, 5 Pl., 8vo, 21s.

On Diseases of the Abdomen,

comprising those of the Stomach and other Parts of the Alimentary Canal, Oesophagus, Cæcum, Intestines, and Peritoneum.

On Diseases of the Stomach,

the Varieties of Dyspepsia: their Diagnosis and Treatment. 3rd Edition, Revised, crown 8vo, 5s.

On the Pneumogastric Nerve,

being the Lumleian Lectures delivered at the Royal College of Physicians of London, 1876. Post 8vo, 3s. 6d.

J. & A. CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

Now ready, with 30 Illustrations, 8vo, 4s. 6d.

On Contraction of the Fingers,

and its Treatment by Subcutaneous Operation; and on OBLITERATION of DEPRESSED CICATRICES by the same Method. By WM. ADAMS, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital and to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Consulting Surgeon to the National Orthopaedic Hospital, etc.

J. & A. CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.

WORKS BY HENRY C. BURDETT, F.S.S.

Pay Hospitals and Paying

WARDS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD: Facts in support of a Re-arrangement of the English System of Medical Relief. 8vo, 7s.

British Medical Journal.—"We commend the book to all who are interested in the improvement of medical relief,—and which of us are not?"

The American Practitioner.—"Mr. Burdett displays and discusses the whole scheme of hospital accommodation with a comprehensive understanding of its nature and extent, and he does it in fulness without prolixity, and in a clear catholic spirit with perspicacity. The book is a stepping-stone, a valuable contribution in the way of introduction to a review and candid reconsideration of the whole subject of legal and organised charity—a theme which much demands reconsideration and readjustment in the whole civilised world.—A good and timely book, and suggestive."

In Preparation.

Epidemic Disease, its Origin, TREATMENT, and PREVENTION.

By HENRY C. BURDETT, F.S.S.

Sanitary Record.—"Mr. Burdett has had exceptional opportunities of ascertaining the origin and causes of outbreaks of epidemic disease. His reports upon the War Office, New Foreign Office, and other Government buildings, were so convincing that a Royal Commission was issued in the first case, and a Select Committee of the House of Commons in the second. He has visited and made minute investigation into the conditions under which the poor population live in the large towns of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and it is probable that Mr. Burdett has a wider knowledge of the sanitary condition of the United Kingdom, and a more varied experience of the causes of epidemic disease, than even the officials of the Local Government Board itself."

J. & A. CHURCHILL, New Burlington Street.