

A CAUTION.

SIR.—I think it right to publish the following facts, and put my medical brethren on their guard against an impostor. A tall, dark man, of fairly good address, called on me a few days ago to ask for assistance. He stated that his name was Phillips, and that he was nearly related to two medical gentlemen of that name in practice in London. On inquiry I found that the man's statements were absolutely false. He took good care to leave the neighbourhood before I could ascertain the facts of the case, otherwise I should have given him in charge.—Yours faithfully,
Rosefield Villa, Lydney, Gloucestershire,
February 23th, 1883.

ANDREW S. CURRIE, M.D.

PARAPHIMOSIS.

SIR.—Having been called to a case of paraphimosis in a youth, and having tried the usual remedies, without success, I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the utility of the application of the narrow bandage, as recently advocated in your JOURNAL—when reduction was easily accomplished.—Yours truly,
Folkestone.

ALLEN DUKE.

TREATMENT OF PUERPERAL MASTITIS BY IODIDE OF LEAD OINTMENT.

DR. THOMAS T. GAUNT, in the *American Journal of Obstetrics*, expresses his disappointment at the ill success of belladonna in checking the secretion of milk, but reports good effects from iodide of lead. He says: "The breast being thoroughly dried and perfectly cleansed, we smear its surface with the official ointment of the iodide of lead, and then gently rub it in until a considerable quantity is absorbed. Soak a piece of sheet-lint, of a size sufficient to cover the breast, in the following solution: Acetate of lead, from 3ij to ʒss to the pint of a one-to-four solution of alcohol. If we desire a more elegant preparation, eau de Cologne may be substituted. If there be much pain, it is often well to apply an ice-bladder upon the sheet-lint covering the breast. The lint should be frequently dipped in the lead lotion. The following phenomena will present themselves: first, a cessation of pain, fulness, and uneasy feeling of distension, which is so annoying. It is common for the patient, who has been exhausted by pain and consequent loss of sleep, to fall into a refreshing slumber even after the application is made. In the course of three or four hours, the breasts may be completely emptied by an experienced hand. The ointment should be used as a lubricant during the manipulation. By applying the iodide freely twice or thrice daily, the secretion will be gone in less than one week, as a rule. The pivotal point in the treatment is the use of this ointment; the evaporating lotion and cold being only adjuncts. I have proved by repeated trials that, when applied alone, it is capable of exerting an absolute control over the secretion. I believe we here invoke a specific action from the lead iodide. A point of considerable moment is the partial anaesthesia it is capable of inducing, which thus enables us to empty the glands, where before even slight pressure was badly borne. Its action without doubt extends to the epithelial cells and inhibits their secretory activity, as is seen in its action, in cases like the above, in causing the drying up of the secretion."

RUSH.—In the pages of recent back numbers, this subject has frequently been treated.

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- The Student's Handbook of Surgical Anatomy. By John M'Lachlan. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone; London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1883.
- A Dictionary of Domestic Medicine and Household Surgery. By Spencer Thomson, M.D., L.R.C.P. Edin. Thoroughly revised and brought down to the present state of medical science by J. C. Steele, M.D., assisted by the Author, with a Chapter on the Management of the Sick-room, illustrated by numerous woodcuts and diagrams. Seventeenth Edition. London: Charles Griffin and Co., Exeter Street, Strand. 1883.
- Manual of the Minor Gynecological Operations and Appliances. By J. Halliday Croom, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. Ed. Second Edition, revised and enlarged. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone; London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1883.
- A Guide to the Medical Profession; a Comprehensive Manual conveying the means of entering the Medical Profession in the Chief Countries of the World. By Edwin Wootton. Edited, and with Preface, by Lyttleton Forbes Winslow, M.B., D.C.L. London: L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, W.C.
- General Surgical Pathology and Therapeutics; in Fifty-one Lectures: a Text-Book for Students and Physicians. By Dr. Theodor Billroth, Professor of Surgery in Vienna. With Additions by Dr. Alexander van Winiwarter. Translated from the Fourth German Edition with the Special Permission of the Author, and revised from the Tenth Edition by Charles E. Hackley, A.M., M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1883.
- Economy of Coal in House Fires; or, How to Convert an Ordinary Fire-Grate into a Slow Combustion Stove at a Small Cost. By T. Pridgin Teale, M.A., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the General Infirmary at Leeds. London: J. and A. Churchill, New Burlington Street. Leeds: Charles Goodall, Boar Lane, 1883.
- Diseases of the Rectum and Anus. By Charles B. Kelsey, M.D., Surgeon to St. Paul's Infirmary for Diseases of the Rectum; Consulting-Surgeon for Diseases of the Rectum to the Harlem Hospital and Dispensary for Women and Children, etc. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington. 1883.
- Syllabus of Materia Medica for the Use of Students, Teachers, and Practitioners, based on the Relative Values of Articles and Preparations in the British Pharmacopoeia. By Alexander Harvey, M.D., Emeritus Professor; and Alexander Dyce Davidson, M.D., Regius Professor of Materia Medica in the University of Aberdeen. Sixth Edition. London: H. K. Lewis, 136, Gower Street. 1882.
- Refraction of the Eye: its Diagnosis and the Correction of its Errors, with Chapter on Keratotomy. By A. Stanford Morton, M.B., F.R.C.S. Ed., Senior Assistant-Surgeon Royal South London Ophthalmic Hospital; Clinical Assistant, Moorfields Ophthalmic Hospital. Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1882.
- The Dental Proceedings of the General Medical Council, July 1882: an Address delivered at the Annual General Meeting of the British Dental Association held at Liverpool, August 1882, on the proceedings of the past years (1878-82) in regard to the Registration of Dentists, with an Appendix thereto. By J. Tomes, F.R.S., the retiring President. Report and Minutes of Evidence on Dental Questions of the Royal Commission on Medical Acts, 1882. Reprinted from the Journal of the British Dental Association.

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