

## "GERMAN MEASLES."

SIR,—Will you kindly inform me if "German measles" can spread as either scarlatina or measles. I am sorry to trouble you with a question of this kind, I was asked it by my vicar, the statement being made to him by the medical officer of health for the district. I answered, no, but I said I would put it to the JOURNAL. If you will kindly answer it through the JOURNAL, I shall be obliged.—I am, yours truly,  
A MEMBER.

\* \* There can be no doubt that "German measles" spreads by contagion just like scarlatina and measles. In recognition of this fact, it is by some authors known as "Epidemic Roseola." Its contagion, however, seems to be less active than the contagion either of scarlatina or of measles.

GROSSLY IRREGULAR.—The Registrar-General is, we believe, willing to prosecute in all cases where there is a fair chance of conviction, but the evidence presented must of course be first-hand, and not hearsay, such as lawyers would consider as likely to lead to conviction. If our correspondent can produce such evidence, we believe that he will find no difficulty in obtaining the desired result.

PUEZLED.—The fee, under such circumstances, would vary altogether according to the usual fees charged by our correspondent in his practice, and any understanding which may exist between him and his patient. For the visits to London, a fee of one-third of a guinea per mile for distance one way would be reasonable.

## MEDICINE AND PHARMACY.

SIR,—The conclusion to be drawn from the letters written in reply to that which was signed "An Examiner in Medicine" last November, is, that there are fewer objections to the combined work of prescribing and dispensing by medical practitioners, than to the separation of them. It is a very important matter, as pointed out, that we should consider this subject carefully. In our desire to elevate the profession, it is quite an open question whether we should not encourage the system of druggists prescribing for the public, as they are only too ready to do; and certainly without benefit to any but themselves. Highly educated men will not do the work of poor general practice; and, in the interests of the public far more than of ourselves, I hope that the profession will express a very decided opinion on the duties of the examining bodies, that they must clearly recognise the fact, that a good, simple, practical examination is required for those who are to engage at once in general practice, where a competent knowledge of pharmacy is as important as that of medicine and surgery; and that it is not desirable to raise the standard beyond this point.

You will probably make this important subject a matter of consideration, as was suggested last week by one of your correspondents, and place before us a fair summary of conflicting opinions.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,  
AN EXAMINER IN MEDICINE.

JUSTITIA.—The letter of "Justitia" is so entirely wanting in details of time, place, and the institution pointed at, that it would be useless to publish such communication. He should give the necessary information, and it should be signed for publication.

THE letter of a member (Fovant) affords no data for making any calculation.

## SOME UNRECORDED EFFECTS OF ARSENIC.

SIR,—Six cases of psoriasis recently came under my care, and the following effects of arsenic were noticed during treatment (Fowler's solution).

1. For the first two days, increase of appetite, but diminished digestive powers; the former shortly ceased, but the latter remained during the entire time the arsenic was taken.
2. After ten or more days, the voice became weak and husky, particularly in singing, with a constant tendency to crack, and a feeling of fatigue after short use.
3. Noises in ears, with occasional slight deafness.
4. Tingling sensation of skin, with tendency of legs and arms to go asleep.
5. Throbbing and feeling of fullness about head and neck on stooping, or after slight exertion.
6. Sexual desire greatly diminished, with almost impossible penile erection.
7. Occipito-frontalis muscle felt to the patient hot, tight, heavy, with a constant dull aching, and as if it had increased very much in thickness; and
8. Powers of comprehension, concentration, and remembrance dulled, with consequent desire for solitude.

I have found that five-drop doses of chlorodyne given with the arsenical solution minimises these and other well known effects, without interfering with the action of the metal on the skin. As regards psoriasis, flannel should never be worn next the skin, as the irritation it produces increases the disease.—I am, etc.,  
F. A. MACPHERSON.

106, Queen's Road, Liverpool, E.

W. E. GREEN should write to the secretary of St. Thomas's Home and St. Thomas's Hospital, or to the secretaries of either the Home Hospital, Fitzroy Square, or the Bolingbroke Pay Hospital, Wandsworth, S.W., which is the cheapest.

ERRATUM.—In the JOURNAL of March 10th, page 486, column 2, for "Mr. F. Manby," read "Mr. A. R. Manby."

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

Dr. Goodhart, London; Dr. Carter, Liverpool; Mr. Wm. Davies, Llandrindod Wells; Dr. C. A. Owens, Long Stratton; Mr. George Jackson, Plymouth; Mr. F. A. Macpherson, Liverpool; Mr. Edward Williams, Aberayron; Dr. Fletcher Beach, Dartford; Mr. David A. King, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. T. R. Allinson, London; Mr. Wm. Legge, Derby; Mr. F. S. Manisty, Wrexham; Dr. G. Goode, Camden; Mr. W. B. Kilburn, West Auckland; Dr. R. W. Batten, Gloucester; Dr. Savage, Birmingham; Mr. W. E. Stanton Stanley, Wellow; Dr. J. Dreschfeld, Manchester; Mr. A. P. Humphry, Cambridge; Dr. Murrell, London; Mr. J. M. Leman, Penpont, N.B.; Mr. J. R. Jennings Brantly, Lewisham; Dr. Sutherland, London; Mr. W. E. Green, Sandown; Mr. C. Lennox Peel, London; Dr. Mahomed, London;

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## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Tapeworms, the Sources, Varieties, and Treatment; with One Hundred and Eighty Cases. By T. Spencer Cobbold, M.D., F.R.S. Fourth Edition. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1883.

How to Help Cases of Distress: a Handy Reference Book for Almoners, Aims-givers, and Others. By C. S. Loch, Secretary to the Council of the Charity Organisation Society, London, January 1883. London: Longmans, Green, and Co., and offices of the Council of the Charity Organisation Society, 15, Buckingham Street, London, W.C.

Edinburgh Health Society; Health Lectures for the People. Third Series. Delivered in Edinburgh during the winter of 1882-83. Edinburgh: Macniven and Wallace. 1883.

Sanitary Engineer. Vol. VI.

Study and Stimulants; or, The Use of Intoxicants and Narcotics in Relation to Intellectual Life, as illustrated, by personal communication on the subject from men of Letters and of Science. By A. Arthur Reade. Manchester: A. Heywood and Son. London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co. 1883.

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