

TRICYCLES.

SIR,—As the weather is now suitable for tricycling, a word to those members of the profession who meditate purchasing a tricycle may not be amiss, based on my experience, which is worth communicating.

Last September, I bought from the St. George's Foundry Company, Pope Street, Birmingham, one of their "Rapid" tricycles. It is a double-speeded machine, enabling one to ascend even steep hills with tolerable ease and at a fair speed. When speeded for ordinary roads, it travels at the rate of a little over four yards for each revolution of the crank-shaft; and, when geared for hill-climbing, at the rate of three yards for each such revolution. In going down inclines, it is thrown out of gear, the feet resting on the pedals, and the pace readily controlled by the brake. It is very strongly built; in proof of which, I have had it out on all sorts of roads since September, and it works easier, and is better now, than when new.

I can honestly recommend this make of tricycles as serviceable, reliable, and economical, the price ranging from £13 10s. upwards. In this hilly town, I can, with its aid, visit nearly as many patients in a given time as I formerly did with that of a good horse. But, more than all, in spite of the continuously wet weather we have of late experienced, my general health has improved greatly by this exercise. For five years before I had it, I suffered almost constantly from arthritic rheumatism and sciatica. Since I have used it, both these enemies have disappeared. For night-work, it is invaluable.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

E. T. BURTON.

14, Spring Hill, Birmingham, April 30th, 1883.

E. BRYAN is recommended to apply to Mr. E. Darke, secretary of the Association for the Supply of Pure Vaccine-Lymph, 3, Hemming's Row, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

SLEEPLESSNESS.

SIR,—I should be greatly obliged by any of your readers suggesting to me a remedy, not therapeutic, for sleeplessness in a young lady, otherwise perfectly healthy. I may mention that all the ordinary popular means, counting, etc., have failed.—I am, sir, faithfully yours,

HARRY E. DIXEY.

Great Malvern, May 22nd, 1883.

THE TREATMENT OF CROUP.

SIR,—I was greatly in hopes that the letter on the above subject from "Anxiety" in the JOURNAL of the 5th May would have elicited more replies. For sixteen years I practised in a low, damp, and marshy district, through which coursed a large river; and, while there, I saw a good number of cases of croup, and I am sorry to say that, to the best of my recollection, every case of true membranous croup was fatal. I cannot help thinking from what Mr. Fahie says in the JOURNAL of the 12th, of the success which has attended his treatment, that some of his cases were simply cases of catarrhal croup, which, I have found, have invariably recovered.

Doubtless climate has much to do with causing such fatality as "Anxiety" and I have seen. I have treated these cases very nearly as Mr. Fahie suggests, and have done almost everything that could be suggested, and that, too, often from the very commencement of the attack. Tracheotomy I should regard as useless, unless the little patient could be properly attended to within the walls of a hospital. Like "Anxiety," I should be extremely glad to be enlightened.—I am, sir, yours,

WALTER G. WALFORD, M.D.

49, Finchley New Road, N.W.

AXILLARY HYPERHIDROSIS ON EXPOSURE.

M. AUBERT publishes in the *Annales de Dermatologie*, some curious facts with reference to this subject. When a patient is examined standing and undressed, perspiration appears under the armpits, and in a third of the cases so abundantly as to run down. M. Desmier, a dermatologist, frequently points out this peculiarity to his pupils. M. Aubert, in seeking the reason of this hyperhidrosis, has ascertained that the temperature of the patient under such conditions is always increased some tenths of a degree. When the arm was raised above the head, consequently preventing contact between the axillary surfaces, the increase was less, and in some there was not any. M. Aubert explains the phenomenon by supposing that the axillary glands, on exposure to cold, behave like the kidneys. Muller's researches demonstrate that cold compresses applied to the integument of a dog have the effect of considerably increasing urinary secretion. Perhaps agitation consequent on examination under certain conditions may, in a measure, cause this increased secretion. M. Aubert has ascertained, by a series of researches, that, when patients are examined in bed, and not exposed, an examination or slight operation does not produce increased axillary secretion.

LICENCES AND DEGREES.

SIR,—The assumption of the prefix "Dr." by some of our Associates, mainly Scotch and Irish, who are merely licentiates of a College of Physicians, is an anomaly which I am surprised the Association has not formally discountenanced within its own ranks; but your footnote to the letter of "Verax," in the JOURNAL of March 31st, seems to have hit the blot. Quoting your words, "It is a mere matter of good taste, etc., that is to say, no penalty is incurred, and no law is broken."

There are many other acts of impropriety for which there are neither pains nor penalties, yet what do we think of those persons in the profession who commit them?

To assume a prefix to which you are not entitled may be a fitting device to catch the public eye by way of advertisement, but, as members of a learned and honourable calling, let us set our faces against this unseemly assumption of a title by these licentiates.

I do not know what our respected founder, the late Sir Charles Hastings, would have thought if he knew the extent to which we have neglected our ethics. Let the respective Branches of the Association see to the rectification of this abnormality, unless a majority are adverse to the opinion expressed by HONESTAS.

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

Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; Mr. J. H. Kisby, London; Mr. Henry Dayman, Millbrook, Southampton; Mr. Nelson Hardy, London; Mr. John Ringwood, Kells, Co. Meath; Dr. H. Fly Smith, London; Dr. John Shaw, London; Mr. J. Fraser Henry, Bury St. Edmunds; Dr. John Beddoe, Clifton; Mr. T. Rowing Pendick, London; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mr. C. F. Bullmore, Helston; Mr. Ernest D. Bowes, Gloucester; Mr. W. D. James, Sheffield; Dr. Sutherland, London; Mr. C. W. Belfield, Bristol; Dr. E. Malins, Birmingham;

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Ethics of Diet a Catena of Authorities Deprecatory of the Practice of Flesh Eating. By Howard Williams, M.A. London: F. Pitman: John Heywood. Manchester: John Heywood. 1883.

Mechanical Exercise a Means of Cure; Being a Description of the Zander Institute, London: Its History, Appliances, Scope and Object. Edited by the Medical Officer to the Institution. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

What To Do in Cases of Poisoning. By William Murrell, M.D. H. K. Lewis, 136, Gower Street, W.C.

The Student's Manual of Venereal Diseases; Being a Concise Description of those Affections, and of their Treatment. By Berkeley Hill and Arthur Cooper. Third Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science. Nottingham Meeting, 1882. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1883.

The Botanical Atlas. By D. M'Alpine, F.C.S. Edinburgh: W. and A. K. Johnston. 1883.

Lectures on Cataract; Its Causes, Varieties, and Treatment: Being Six Lectures delivered at the Westminster Hospital. By George Cowell, F.R.C.S. With Illustrations. London: Macmillan and Co. 1883.

Transactions of the Epidemiological Society of London. New Series, Vol. I. Session 1881-82. London: David Bogue. 1883.

The Student's Guide to Surgical Diagnosis. By Christopher Heath, F.R.C.S. Second Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.

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