

## TINEA VERSICOLOR.

SIR,—Let "Member (Egypt)" try the sulphide of calcium lotion, which is used in the army for the cure of scabies (see JOURNAL, February 9th, p. 260). I have found it uniformly successful in tinea versicolor. The first effect is to darken the growth, which, after a short time, and with scrubbing with soap and water, comes away. The cure requires a little time, and the remedy I proffer is undoubtedly disagreeable from its smell, but it is efficacious.—I am, etc.

## MEMBER.

In reply to "A Member (Egypt)," Staff-Surgeon W. H. PUTSEY writes that, while serving in Egypt, he treated and cured a severe case of this disease, of many years' standing, by a single application of chrysophanic acid ointment (5j to ʒj). He strongly recommends "A Member" to give this remedy a trial.

MR. EDWARD HYNES (Nottingham) suggests the following. Moisten the affected parts with cold water, and then sprinkle over some chrysophanic acid. The disease generally, he says, disappears in a week or ten days under this treatment. After the application of the acid, the spots assume a deeper hue. He would like to hear of the further progress of the case.

MR. C. A. GRAY suggests that "A Member" should use a five per cent. ointment of oleate of mercury (Dr. Shoemaker's), with vaseline, as Bass's. Any local application in this affection is comparatively inert without the previous thorough use of the flesh-brush following a hot bath.

## THE STAFF OF PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.

In reply to a communication received from a Member on January 26th, we may observe that the managers of a provident dispensary must be allowed to judge as to the number of medical officers whom it is advisable to appoint. We can hardly suppose that, at any dispensary in a populous district, all the medical men of the neighbourhood can, if they think fit, be placed on the staff. When a vacancy occurs, which the Committee intend to fill up, it will, no doubt, be made known in the usual way.

## BOOKS ON MICRO-ORGANISMS.

PRACTITIONER asks us to mention works which give full information about the low forms of vegetable life affecting man.

\*\* Our correspondent is referred to the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for January 5th, p. 41. We may also mention the first volume of Ziegler's *Pathology*, translated by Mr. Mac Alister of Cambridge, which contains, perhaps, the most systematic account of the subject as yet published.

## PRELIMINARY EDUCATION IN SCIENCE.

K., who is interested in a lad aged 17, who has passed the examination of the College of Preceptors (Second Class), inquires whether we can recommend any institution, school, or private tutor, in London or elsewhere, where the lad could work for a year at physics, geometry, mathematics, chemistry, and botany.

\*\* It is obviously impossible for us to recommend individual tutors, and "K.'s" best course will probably be to apply to the Warden at St. Bartholomew's or the London Hospital, or the Secretary of Guy's Hospital, or of King's College or University College. Classes in the subjects mentioned are held at all these schools, as well as at others; and the wardens or secretaries generally have lists of gentlemen living within easy reach who are willing to take pupils into their houses. At King's College, and at University Hall, Gordon Square (apply to the Principal), students are taken at an early age, and have the advantage of a certain amount of supervision. The preparatory school of the West London Hospital might meet the necessities of the case.

## INFLUENCE OF THE OVARIES IN THE DETERMINATION OF SEX.

SIR,—Among the many theories regarding the determination of sex, is one broached or supported by Mr. Thomas Tuckey, that the right ovary is for males, and the left for females, *vide Digest*, Sec. 277:2. On the 5th instant, I delivered a lady of a male child upon whom left ovariectomy was performed in January 1883. Dr. Hamilton in the *Lancet*, page 191, records a case where two males were born after the removal of the right ovary, the patient having borne two female children previous to the operation. These cases refute the ovular theory.—Yours obediently,

RICHARD NEALE, M.D. LOND.

## CONTINUOUS INHALATIONS OF ANTISEPTICS.

SIR,—What are the best formulae for using these? Is a solution of carbolic acid (1 to 40) sufficiently strong?—Yours, PRACTITIONER.

## SPASM OF CREMASTER MUSCLE AND RETRACTION OF TESTICLE.

M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A., asks for the best remedy for spasm of the cremaster muscle and retraction of the testicle. The condition has been present for about a week or ten days; the retraction does not cease. He has given the following. R Potassæ bicarb. ʒij; tinct. hyoscyami ʒij; spir. chlorof. ʒij; decoct. pareiræ ad ʒviij. An eighth part to be taken three times a day. He has also given tritium repens, and has used warm bathing, with poppy-heads, and camphor-liniment, with belladonna.

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

Mr. L. A. Waddell, Calcutta; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. Herman, London; Dr. Tripe, London; Mr. R. W. Jenkins, Fawley; Mr. Alfred James, Biggleswade; Mr. Power, Portsea; Dr. Bradbury, Cambridge; Mr. Rupert C. Chikien, Nottingham; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Mr. W. A. Lane, London; Mr. W. H. Spurgeon, Maryport; Dr. T. J. Walker, Peterborough; Dr. Fancourt Barnes, London; Our Paris Correspondent; Mr. J. J. Marsh, Manchester; Mr. L. H. Tosswill, Exeter; A Member; Mr. J. W. Sheridan, Stowmarket; Mr. W. W. Dunkley, Coventry; Mr. T. G. Gardiner, London; Mr. F. C. Crossle, Newry; Mr. J. B. Richardson, Torquay; Mr. D. C. Black, Glasgow; Mr. T. A. Mitchell, Catford; The General Register Office, Somerset House; Mr. S. S. Sargent, Eastbourne; Mr. F. Spencer, Chippenham; Mr. T. Clifford Smith, London; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. E. H. Vinen, London; Mr. S. Farrer, Slough; Dr. Hurdle, Darwen; Dr. A. Weith, St. Croix, Switzerland; Mr. N. W. Allt, London; Mr. M. Haydon, Newton Abbot; Dr. J. G. Parsons, Bristol; Dr. C. P. Coombs, Castle Cary; Mr. R. J. Godlee, London;

Mr. J. C. Miller, London; Dr. C. F. Pollock, Hillhead; The Honorary Secretary of the Society of Medical Officers of Health; Dr. G. Hudson, Scarborough; Mr. Robert Thompson, Thurles; Dr. Mackey, Brighton; Dr. Mahomed, London; Messrs. C. Wright and Co., London; Dr. Strahan, Belfast; Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, London; Dr. Robert Rentoul, Liverpool; Mr. C. A. Gray, Glasgow; Mr. H. W. King, Chester; Dr. E. Firth, Norwich; Dr. Farquharson, London; Dr. Henry Rayner, Hanwell; Mr. E. B. Evans, Swansea; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. M. Marriott, London; The Secretary of the National Provident Institution; Mr. F. Wallace, London; Mr. A. H. Young, Manchester; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. B. Duke, London; Mr. E. Chapman, Oxford; Mr. F. Barnes, London; Dr. Clement Godson, London; Dr. T. Lauder Brunton, London; Mr. J. Cantlie, London; Dr. Saul, London; Dr. Ross, Plymouth; Dr. Sawyer, Birmingham; The Secretary of the International Food Exhibition; Mr. W. Dunnett Spanton, Hanley; Mr. A. H. F. Cameron, Liverpool; The Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh; Mr. J. W. Batherham, Wolverhampton; Dr. W. Ewart, London; Dr. Willoughby, London; Mr. W. H. Putsey, Derby; Mr. A. Macpherson, Chester; Dr. J. A. Lindsay, Belfast; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; Dr. Douglas, Tantalion, Bournemouth; Mr. Freeman, Bath; Dr. Brailey, London; Dr. McKellar, London; Dr. S. C. Smith, Halifax; Mr. Martin F. Bush, Bristol; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. R. A. Fitch, Birmingham; Mr. E. Walford, Ramsgate; Mr. Alexander Wheeler, Darlington; Dr. W. M. Campbell, Liverpool; Dr. Neale, London; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Leeds; Mr. E. Hynes, Nottingham; Dr. Vincent D. Harris, London; Mr. R. W. Parker, London; Dr. Roger McNeill, Colonsay; Messrs. Feltham and Co., London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Dr. Burns Gibson, London; Aspirans; Messrs. W. Hutchman and Co.; Mr. William Rae, Victoria, Australia; Dr. W. V. Black, Edinburgh; Professor Ewald, Berlin; Mr. J. B. Hargreaves, Arnhem; Mr. W. H. Harvey, London; Dr. W. J. Irvine, Nottingham; Mr. C. E. Walker, Hurworth-on-Tees; Dr. Sidney Davies, Cairo; Dr. Fairlie Clarke, Southborough; Mr. Walter Whitehead, Manchester, etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

- Facts Around Us. By C. Lloyd Morgan, F.C.S. London: Edward Stanford. 1884.
- The Pedigree of Disease: Being Six Lectures on Temperament, Idiosyncrasy, and Diathesis. By Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.
- Transactions of the American Gynecological Society. Vol. VIII. 1883. New York: D. Appleton and Co. 1884.
- Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Vol. I. Edited by J. Ewing Mears, M.D. Philadelphia: printed for the Association and for sale by P. Blakiston, Son and Co. 1883.
- Nursery Hints: A Mother's Guide in Health and Disease. By N. E. Davies. London: Chatto and Windus. 1884.
- Notes on Dental Practice. By H. C. Quinby. With Illustrations. London: J. and A. Churchill. Liverpool: G. G. Wahnsley. 1883.
- A Study of the Bladder During Parturition. By J. Halliday Croom, M.D. Edinburgh: David Douglas. 1884.
- Traité de L'Affectio Calculeuse du Foie. Par Le Docteur Jules Cyr. Paris: V. Delahaye et Lecrosniere Editeurs. 1884.
- How to Arrest Infectious Diseases. By Edgar G. Barnes, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.
- Illustrations of the Influence of the Mind upon the Body in Health and Disease: Designed to Elucidate the Action of the Imagination. By D. H. Tuke, M.D. Second Edition. Vols. I and II. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1883.
- The International Encyclopædia of Surgery. Edited by John Ashhurst, Jun., M.D. Vol. IV. London: Macmillan and Co. 1884.
- St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Edited by W. S. Church, M.D., and John Langton, F.R.C.S. Vol. IX. London: Smith, Elder and Co. 1883.

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