

A CORRECTION.

SIR.—I observe, in the report of my remarks at the Medical Society on antipyretic treatment, by some inadvertence, I quoted statistics of the "Charité Hospital" at Berlin. It should have been "Bethanien Hospital."—Yours faithfully,

W. CAYLEY.

THE SHOEING OF HORSES.

SIR.—I have been much interested in the letters that have appeared in the JOURNAL with reference to the Charlier horseshoe or tip. In this country, one is constantly annoyed, and the horse injured by cutting himself with the long sharp canklis which the shoers think necessary to impose upon the poor brute. Again, the heel-caulks, being longer than the toe one; tend to throw the horse over in the knees, and to strain the muscles of his legs, as he is perched up on three pins, and has no firm foothold. Could any of your readers kindly inform me where the tips could be got, and where I could find a description and figure of them?—Yours truly,

G. STERLING RYERSON.

317, Church Street, Toronto, Canada, February 19th, 1884.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC.

SIR.—A proposal having been publicly made that wards or beds should be set apart in this hospital for a particular class of patients, I beg permission to state that the medical committee has passed the following resolution respecting it.

"(1) As this hospital already undertakes the treatment of all such varieties of diseases of the nervous system as are capable of being treated in a hospital as distinguished from an asylum; (2) as cases of insanity are not legally admissible; and (3) as it would be detrimental to the interests of the other patients to admit insane persons, if the legal difficulty were met, we advise the Board of Management not to accept the proposal made to them."—I am, sir, your faithful servant,

B. BURFORD RAWLINGS, Secretary.

National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic,
Queen Square, February 7th, 1884.

ERRATA.—In the title of Mr. L'Heureux Blenkarne's Obstetric Memorandum in the JOURNAL of March 1st, page 408, col. 2, for "or placenta," read "on placenta." In line 19 of the article, for "difficulty in passing," read "difficulty in grasping."

DETERMINATION OF SEX.

SIR.—When our knowledge is greater than it is at present, I believe it will be found that the ovum, on leaving the ovary, is either a male or a female ovum, and that it is simply fertilised by the spermatozoa. The latter have no power as to sex. Microscopically, they are all alike. The determination of sex is very often hereditary on the side of the female, and quite independent of the menstrual period as to time.—Yours truly,

A. T.

OLD MEDICAL WORKS.

SIR.—In reference to your article on Woolveridge's *Speculum Matricis*, published in 1670, it may interest many of your readers to know that there is, amongst the splendid collection of books in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, one of the oldest surgical works in existence. It is a MS. of 500 pages, written and illustrated in 1349 by John Arderne, surgeon, of Newark, Nottinghamshire. This rare old work is extensively reviewed by Surgeon-Major Gore, in the *Dublin Medical Journal* for October 1883.—Yours, etc.,

BOOKWORM.

THE VALUE OF VACCINATION.

SIR.—If nothing else could convince us as to the value of vaccination, I think the following facts would be sufficient.

In July last, I was called to see Mrs. B., who was suffering from small-pox. Her husband and three children were unvaccinated; the father and two eldest were vaccinated by me when the eruption on the mother was in the papular stage, the youngest being very delicate, and the parents being opposed to vaccination. I deemed it advisable not to operate on the child. The results were as follows.

1. The mother made good recovery.
2. The unvaccinated child died from small-pox on the fourth day of the eruption.
3. Those who were vaccinated escaped from infection entirely.—I am, yours, etc.,

WALTER BUCHANAN, M.R.C.S.E.

Chatham, February 1884.

GAS-FIREPLACES.

"NE QUID NIMIS" is desirous of learning the experience of others in regard to gas-fireplaces (not stoves). Do they give out much heat? Can the smell of burnt gas be perceived in the room?

J. B. W. will find information on this subject in Vol. II of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for 1883, page 456. In the case to which he refers, marriage would be decidedly inadvisable.

MARRIAGE OF COUSINS.

J. B. W. will find information on this subject in Vol. II of the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL for 1883, page 456. In the case to which he refers, marriage would be decidedly inadvisable.

WORKS ON PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

I. W.—There is no cheap "Manual of Psychological Medicine." Other works than Bucknill and Tuke's Manual, are Clouston's *Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases*, and Blandford's *Insanity, and its Treatment*; but these do not profess to be systematic treatises.

THE MEMBER of the British Medical Association who has forwarded a page from the advertisements in the JOURNAL has omitted to enclose his card.

PRESCRIPTIONS IN ENGLISH.

THE advocates of phonetic spelling should study the following order, sent to a druggist (in America): "Gumm camfor, 1 owize; loduom, 1 owize; kloryforme, 1 owize; oil sassyfras, 1 owize." Also this: "Surip of squilla, parygaric, oyl of amonds, bolsom pavia, swet sperrit nighter. Give baror a canal (calomel) powder for agrone persien."

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Hydatid Disease. By John D. Thomas, M.D., F.R.C.S. Adelaide: E. Spiller. Bacteria and the Germ-Theory of Disease. By Dr. H. Gräde. Chicago: W. T. Keener. Dental Medicine. By F. J. S. Gorgus, M.A., M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884. An Experimental Investigation of the Physiological Action of Saline Cathartics. By Matthew Hay, M.D. Edinburgh: MacLachlan and Stewart. London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co. 1884. Experimental Chemistry for Junior Students. By J. E. Reynolds, M.D., F.R.S. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1884. Cassell's Technical Educator. London, Paris, and New York: Cassell and Co., Limited. Burdett's Official Intelligence. Vol. II. Part Second. London: Effingham Wilson. E. Crossman and Co. Sampson Low and Co. A Practical Introduction to Medical Electricity. By A. De Watterville, M.D. Second Edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1884. The Book of the Horse. By S. Sidney, late Manager of the Agricultural Hall Horse Show. London, Paris, and New York: Cassell and Co., Limited.

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