• Hour-class Contraction of the Womb between the expulsion of the child and placenta, has lately been much discussed in the Journal, and many cases attributed to the uneven application of a binder. Within the past four years I have seen three cases, and in none was there a binder applied nor ergot given. In all the cause was adhesion of the placents to the womb. For myself, I cannot see how the binder could produce it, and should like an explanation. If this was the case, how many cases attended by midwives would be converted into hour-glass contractions.?

In some of the northern counties, few women are delivered without the aid of a binder. One woman is generally set aside to pull till child and afterbirth are both expelled, and often the binder is rolled up like a rope; yet, out of 319 cases attended by myself, and where, according to the custom, the binder was used, I never saw a single case of hour-glass contraction. I am of the opinion that, in most cases where it exists, adhesions of some kind may be found as the sole cause.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

T. A. Mitchell.

sole cause.—I am, sir, yours, etc., Catford, S.E.

Catford, S.E. The CHARLIER SHOE.

Dr. Horace S. Howell sends a communication, stating that he has been much interested in the recent correspondence on this subject, and, wishing to be cautious, has had one of his horses shod with the Charlier shoe, and, at the same time, has sought for the experience of some other person who has worked his horse for a year, shod in the same way, but he cannot find such a person. Dr. Howell's coachman went to inspect an alleged case, but found that the horse was shod in front with Charlier shoes that were not let into the hoof flush with the sole, but only half way, so as to differ but little from the ordinary shoe; the hind feet were shod with the common shoe, with a calkin on the outer heel. Dr. Howell has watched hundreds of horses, and not observed the new kind of shoe in use. He asks if any of our correspondents can throw light on this obscure subject, for it seems incredible that no one should have tried the experiment, and if any one will give the benefit of successful experience in the use of the Charlier shoe, he will be doing a great service to many. Veterinary surgeons, blacksmiths, grooms, and coachmen do not look on the new system with favour.

DRYNESS OF PALM OF HAND.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, kindly give me any advice which will benefit extreme dryness of palm, amounting almost to contraction, in a gouty subject? -I am. etc..

\*\* The precise nature of a complaint of the kind described can only be ascertained by inspection of the affected part. "Sufferer" should consult his regular medical attendant.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE following were the questions on Anatomy and Physiology submitted to the 256 candidates for the diploms of member of the Royal College of Surgeons, at a meeting of the Board of Examiners on March 31st. They were required to answer four, and not more than that number, out of the six questions. A. Anatomy.—1. Describe the dissection down to the bones of that portion of the palm of the hand which lies to the ulnar side of a line drawn from the middle of the annular ligament to the cleft between the ring and middle fingers. 2. Describe the course and relations of the vaine which townington in the inferior renegation. annular ligament to the cleft between the ring and middle fingers. 2. Describe the course and relations of the veins which terminate in the inferior vena cava. 3. Enumerate the various kinds of joints met with in the human body, and give examples of each kind. 4. Describe the structures filling in an intercostal space, and give their relative positions. 5. Describe the attachments, connections, relations, and actions of the biceps flexor cubiti. 6. Give a dissection displaying fully the external circumflex artery of the thigh and its branches. B. Physiology.

—1. Describe the excretory functions of the skin. What relations exist between these functions and those of the lungs and kidneys? 2. Describe the different forms of peripheral nerve-endings in man, and state the functions of each. 3. What are the evidences of the circulation of the blood? State the forces by which that circulation is maintained. 4. Describe the formation of the placenta. What are the functions of this organ? 5. Describe the blood-supply to the different parts of the kidney, and the relation of this supply to the secretion of urine. 6. Describe the mechanism of voice and speech.

Sir,-I should be greatly obliged if you, or any reader, could inform me of any home or institution into which a consumptive patient, paying about 10s. or 15s. per week for his maintenance, may be received.—Yours obediently, X.

GUNPOWDER MARKS.

Sir,—Would any of your readers kindly suggest any remedy for the black disfiguring marks of the face produced by the explosion of gunpowder?—I am,

Examinations and the Medical Bill.

There is no reason against sending a student up for the first professional examination of the Royal College of Physicians, pending the passing or rejection of the new Medical Bill. The action of the Bill, if it pass, will not be retrospective in such a case. We cannot say whether the College of Physicians may change their system of examination if the Bill be passed.

POLYPUS OF THE RECTUM.

THE case of our correspondent Mr. R. Howard appears to have presented the usual features of this disease. It is often taken for prolapsus, and strangulation of its pedicle by the action of the sphincter is a frequent complication; until this occurs, there are often no symptoms in any way annoying to the patient. Constant desire to defacate is a usual result of irritation around or above the anus from any cause. These growths are generally adenomata. The results of treatment are very satisfactory, and ligature of the pedicle and cutting away of the growth, as practised by Mr. Howard, is the best way of dealing with a rectal

DANGERS OF FALSE TEETH.

SIR,—In the JOURNAL for February 2nd, Mr. Stevenson has drawn attention to the risks involved by wearing false teeth improperly made or applied. An instance of the kind, happily without a fatal termination, happened to myself during my residence as house-surgeon at the West Herts Infirmary. When administering ether to a woman, during a protracted operation, I discovered that the patient was becoming rapidly asphyxiated. Upon opening the mouth, and dragging the tongue forward, a plate containing three incisor teeth was seen projecting from the pharynx, seized with forceps, and with some difficulty extracted. It was similar in construction to that referred to by Mr. Stevenson. It is needless to remark that I have carefully examined the teeth previously to giving an anæsthetic since this occurrence.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Herbert E. Paxon. Newcastle-under-Lyme.

HERBERT E. PAXON.

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

Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. J. Vesey Fitzgerald, London; Dr. Myers, London; Sir Eardley Wilmot, London; Dr. Robertson, Kimberley; The Secretary of the International Health Exhibition; Dr. J. Farquhar, Harrogate; Mr. J. J. Campbell, Castle Douglas; Dr. Lionel Druitt, London; Dr. T. Cranston Charles, Streatham; Mr. Alfred J. Bisdée, Banwell; Mr. G. T. Broatch, Aylesbury; Mr. G. Knapp, Southampton; Mr. F. B. J. Baldwin, Rotherham; Dr. J. O. Affleck, Edinburgh; Mr. C. E. Smith, Stratford; Mr. Hamilton, Aberdeen; Dr. John Blair, Shotts; Dr. Collier, Homerton; Mrs. Joseph, Builth; Dr. Donovan, Romsey; Dr. Waters, Chester; Mr. H. A. Powell, Beckenham; Messrs. Maskelyne and Cook, London; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Mr. J. Ogilvie, Bolton; The Board of Management of the London Temperance Hospital; Mr. A. Simpson, Perth; Mr. J. Burdett Moxon, Grantham; Mr. H. Hendley, London; Our Belfast Correspondent; Mr. T. M. Stone, Wimbledon; Dr. J. F. Goodhart, London; Mr. J. Hall-Edwards, Birmingham; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society; Mr. J. White, London; Dr. H. S. Howell, London; Dr. Murrell, London; Dr. Ewart, London; Dr. Hodgson, London; Dr. C. P. Coombs, Castle Cary; Mr. Henry Chayne, London; Dr. Brailey, London; The Secretary of the Harveian Society; The Secretary of the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School; Mr. E. J. Hutchings, Southborough; Dr. J. C. Reeves, Dayton, Ohio; Messrs. Spiers and Pond, London; Mr. John Whitehouse, Smethwick; Mr. A. Cuthbertson Lynn, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dr. Glascott, Manchester; Dr. Henry Harris, Trengmeath, Redruth; Dr. E. Creswell Baber, Brighton; Dr. Althaus, London; Mr. John Taylor, Ticehurst; Mr. G. S. Mahomed, Bournemouth; Mr. J. R. Semple, Crawley, Sussex; Mr. Roger Williams, London; Dr. Strange, Worcester; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. M. Ross, London; Dr. Casey, Windsor; Dr. Shuttleworth, San Remo; Dr. Redfern, Belfast; Dr. Manson, Strathpeffer Spa; Dr. H. de Tatham, Ahmednagar, India; W. S.; Mr. C. L. Crompton, Southport; The Secretary of the Lunatic Asylum for British Guiana; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. L. Humphry, Cambridge; Dr. Fisher, Lytham; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Sir Edmund Lechmere, London; Mr. C. Clark Burman, Belford; Dr. J. Molony, Collooney; Mr. C. R. B. Keetley, London; Dr. B. O'Connor, London; Dr. Suckling, Birmingham; Mr. Thomas Blair, Leeds; Mr. H. R. Fuller, London; Dr. C. J. B. Williams, Cannes; Mr. E. Matthews, Redditch; Mr. G. Davies, London; Dr. Robinson, Dover; Dr. R. Ryder, Nailsworth; Dr. J. L. Crombie, North Berwick; Mr. A. I. Garland, Oamaru, New Zealand; Mr. Beaven N. Rake, Port of Spain; The Secretary of the Royal Medical Benevolent College; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. J. Holmes, Limerick; Mr. Francis Cooks, Cheltenham; Mr. James Oliver, London; Dr. Paul, Liverpool; Dr. Swanzy, Dublin; Dr. Howard, Paris; Mr. Robert Reid Rentoul, Liverpool; Dr. V. D. Harris, London; Dr. A. Hill Griffith, Manchester; Messrs. B. Benjamin and Sons, London; Dr. S. Rees Philipps, Exeter; Dr. Mackay, Greenwich; Mr. T. A. Mitchell, Catford; Dr. McCombie, New Cross; Dr. Crew, Alderley Edge, Cheshire; Mr. Septimus Farmer, Chorley, Lancashire; Mr. Henry Skaife, Alfriston, Sussex; The Secretary of the Leeds Fever Hospital; Dr. J. C. Ogilvie Will, Aberdeen ; Mr. John Powell, Ewyas Harold, Hereford ; Mr. Arthur Jackson, Sheffield; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. R. J. Roulston, London; Dr. T. W. Myles, Dublin; Dr. E. T. Tibbits, Bradford; Dr. H. J. Smith, Blackshear, Georgia, U.S.A.; The Honorary Secretary of the Clinical Society of London; etc.

## BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Anatomy of the Inguinal and Femoral Regions. By E. L'E. Ledwick. Dublin: Fannin and Co. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1884.

Memoirs of Life and Work. By C. J. B. Williams, M.D., F.R.S. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1884.

rpulence and Its Treatment. By Dr. W. Ebstein. Translated by Professor A. H. Keane, B.A. London: H. Grevel. 1884.

Diabetes Mellitus; A Synopsis of Its Pathology, Physiology, Etiology, Incipient and Progressive Symptoms, Causes of Death, Sugar Tests, and Treatment. By Harvey J. Philpot. London: Sampson Low, and Co. 1884.

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