

ENGLISH-BORN CHILDREN IN INDIA.

SIR.—Can any of your readers inform me of the age at which English-born children return to their native land, with safety, be taken to reside at Calcutta? Yours faithfully,

M. R. C. S.

We have asked the opinion of Sir Joseph Fayrer on the subject of this query. He has favoured us with the following note: "English-born children should never be taken to reside in Calcutta. They may remain, if born in India, until 3 or 4, but it is not desirable to take them thither from this country. Infants in arms and up to a year or eighteen months may be taken, if the mother cannot provide a good home for them when she is obliged to go, but it is better not to take them at all, if possible to provide a home for them in England."

A STRANGE TRANSACTION.

SIR.—Did any of your numerous readers ever hear of the following case of vaccination, from a commercial point of view? In the anxious solitude of the operator to please his new customer, and to adapt his price to the exigencies of the market, he presented to the parents of the infant three caskets, which contained lymph bearing a graduated value, the lowest being half-a-crown, the highest seven shillings! How the good people were to discover which casket answered best to the boocle wish, I do not know, nor whether the materials of the caskets were respectively of "gold, silver, or of lead," to assist the guesser in his choice, by commencing with himself, as Bassanio did, as to which contained "fair Portia's counterfeit." Having made their choice, I cannot tell you whether it came from the "gandy gold," the pale and common dudge between man and man, or the "meagre lead." But I fancy the choice was not altogether so successful as the noble Venetian's. I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

EDWARD CRICKMAY.

Laxfield, Suffolk.

SECRETION OF MILK IN THE MALE.

SIR.—In answer to Dr. Alfred Wiltshire's request, in the JOURNAL of March 26th, for cases of secretion of milk in the male, allow me to give the following:

When a boy, I had a schoolmate who, at puberty, had enlargement of the breasts, hard and painful, and which, as he said, he could milk. I knew this boy to be guilty of masturbation. Since I have been in practice I have been consulted by the parents of two boys as to the condition of their breasts. In each case, the parents feared cancer, and in each I found the same condition, viz., the glands being much enlarged, hard and tender, and, on the nipple being squeezed, a milky fluid could be made to exude. Remembering the case at school, I questioned each of these boys as to their habits, and each confessed to the same practice. I leave Dr. Wiltshire, in his essay, to explain the physiological connection between the male breasts and the male generative organs.—Yours faithfully,

G. A. McCALLUM.

Dunville, Ontario.

THE TREATMENT OF CROUP.

SIR.—I have before expressed dissatisfaction, in common with others, with the usual treatment of croup—that by emetics and diaphoretics—and have advocated recourse to medicines which prevent the formation of fibrin, notably the salicylate of soda and the aromatic spirit of ammonia. This treatment was at the same time recommended by me for diphtheria, and also for pneumonia upon another occasion.

I there referred to true croup, that form which is accompanied or characterised by the presence of false membranes similar to those of diphtheria. It is to false croup, or simple inflammatory congestion of the larynx as it occurs in children from exposure to cold, I now wish to refer.

I now think it may be affirmed without hesitation that false croup is a very much more common affection than true or diphtheritic croup, if the latter ever occurs at all, unassociated with diphtheria. In fact, that the very large majority of cases of croup so called, are cases of the false or non-membranous form of that disease.

I have had recourse, in the last three or four cases, which have come under my care, to strong astringent remedies, internally, and powerful counterstimulants, in the shape of blisters, externally, and with the best results, viz., complete recovery in a few hours. I apply the blisters under each angle of the lower jaw, and give minute doses of the perchloride of iron, grain doses of the sulphate of quinine, and two-minim doses of the tincture of belladonna every two hours, sweetening the mixture with glycerine.

I feel sure this method, novel though it is, is except for the blistering, is deserving of further trial. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. R. LIMPONPORN, M.D.

The Hind Fund.

SIR.—Your co-operation in connection with the other medical journals has materially aided the efforts made in my behalf, and the kindness and liberality extended to me demand my best and grateful thanks. The Fund has been materially aided by your kind assistance and friendly appeal. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE WILLIAM HEND.

38, Alfred Place, W.C.

MR. WALTER WHIST.—The book is published by Messrs. J. and A. Churchill, New Burlington Street.

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- A Treatise on the Continued Fevers of Great Britain. By Charles Murchison, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S. Third Edition. Edited by W. Cayley, M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1884.
- Public Health: A Practical Guide to the Public Health Acts for the use of Medical Officers of Health and Inspectors of Nuisances. By T. W. Hime, B.A. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1884.
- Clinical Demonstrations of Ophthalmic Subjects. By J. R. Wolfe, M.D. With Illustrations. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.
- An Epitome of the Reports of the Medical Officers to the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, from 1871 to 1882. Compiled and Arranged by Surgeon-General C. A. Gordon, M.D., C.B. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1884.
- A Short Guide to the Centenary Festival of the University of Edinburgh, including the Speeches and Addresses delivered on the occasion. Edited by E. Sydney Marsden. Edinburgh and London: Blackwood and Sons. 1884.
- Wharton and Stille's Medical Jurisprudence. Edited by Dr. Amory, A.B., M.D.; and E. S. Wood, A.M., M.D. Vol. II. Philadelphia: Kay and Brothers. 1884.
- Recent Materia Medica. By F. Harwood Lescher, F.C.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.
- Sleep-walking and Hypnotism. By D. Hack Tuke, M.D., LL.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.
- Visceral Neuroses. By T. Clifford Allbutt, M.A., M.D., F.R.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.
- Hospital Construction and Management. By F. J. Moutat, M.D., F.R.C.S., and H. S. Engh. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1884.

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