

THE LATE MR. FORD.
WE regret to announce the death of Mr. Ford, for many years porter to the Royal College of Surgeons. He was a contributor to several London and provincial newspapers.

DISEASES OF THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

SIR.—In reply to "Medicus," I write to say that the most recent publication on the above subject is one on *West African Hygiene*, by Charles Scovell Grant, M.D., published by Stamford, 55, Charing Cross, S.W. It is a small pamphlet of about fifty pages, and though written more especially for non-medical readers, may, nevertheless, be studied with advantage by the young physician intending to sojourn on the African coast.—Yours faithfully, D. H. CULLIMORE, M.D.

27, Welbeck Street.

THE TITLE OF DOCTOR.

SIR.—In the JOURNAL of January 24th, I notice a letter signed "L.R.C.P. Ed. and M.R.C.S. for Forty Years," having for its subject the Title of Doctor, also in your number for January 10th, a letter on the same topic signed by "W. J. Keir."

It is not my intention to enter upon any discourse as to the validity of the title. I had hoped that the resemblances of, and the differences between, a "degree" and a "qualification," were now patent to all, and do still believe so, as far as the greater majority of medical practitioners is concerned.

Both your correspondents have, when present at their examinations, been addressed as "doctor," the one by "each of the examiners," who, in addition to this, shook hands with him; and the other by "an official of the College."

Eighteen months ago, I passed the Final Examination at the "Apothecaries' Hall, London. I had not the good fortune to be addressed by "each of the examiners" as "doctor," neither did they all shake hands with me, but I was "orally addressed" by two "officials" of that institution by that title.

May I be allowed to ask your correspondents if, in their opinion, one is entitled to call himself "doctor" after having obtained the L.S.A.? and if not, why? and where the line should be drawn.—I am, etc., M.B. Edin.

EXCISION OF THE CAECUM FOR EPITHELIOMA.

SIR.—Mr. Walter Whitehead, in his paper on a case of Excision of the Caecum for Epithelioma, published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of January 24th, has overlauded a case reported by Mr. Sydney Jones in the *Lancet*, "Mirror of Hospital Practice," for January 10th of this year. Mr. Sydney Jones's operation was for scirrhous growth of six months' duration, and it was necessary to remove the bowel from the ileum to the transverse colon. The patient was a female, aged 54, and the operation was performed May 23rd, 1884. The patient died three days later from localised peritonitis.—I am, sir, yours truly,

St. Thomas's Hospital, S.E.

WILLIAM H. BATTLE, Surgical Registrar.

TREATMENT OF SEVERE COUGH.

SIR.—I should advise your correspondent, "J. C. H." (JOURNAL January 3rd, p. 55), to try eucynymin, with which I have been very successful in several cases. I always use the compound liquor of eucynymin and pepsin made by Oppenheimer.—Yours truly,

A. T.

THE BRUSSELS M.D.

SIR.—As a recent graduate of the University of Brussels, I wish to lay before your readers the status of the examination.

The test is a most rigid one, embracing thirteen distinct subjects, each having a separate examiner, the veto of any one being sufficient to score a rejection. The examination in clinical medicine and surgery, likewise regional anatomy, dissections, surgical and medical pathology, together with midwifery, is of a most searching character. I consider it fully equal to our best London tests; and it is quite a mistake to imagine that one can obtain the degree without careful preparation and clinical experience.

I have been prompted to write this letter on account of numerous inquiries relative to the Brussels M.D.—I am, sir, yours truly,

SIGMA.

MEDICAL STUDY IN VIENNA.

SIR.—From my own experience, I can testify to the excellent opportunities and the most extensive field for clinical study in Vienna. The General Hospital can accommodate 3,000 in-patients, and there is free access to all. There are special clinical courses for graduates, most ably conducted in all departments of medicine, surgery, and midwifery; such as dissections of the ear, throat, eye, skin, etc. Regarding midwifery, there are three departments: 1, ordinary and instrumental labour; 2, all operations performed on the dead body and phantom; 3, a special "touch course," that is, the examination, external, abdominal, vaginal, and bimanual of pregnant women close on confinement, chiefly intended for diagnosis and prognosis. These courses are attended by graduates of every civilised nationality, eminently so by Americans, who far outnumber several times all the others. Consequently, as the Americans generally know German well, "S. H. B." will always have an interpreter at hand (and a most courteous one too); but, unless he understand German, he loses the professor's remarks, and being unable to question the patients for himself, he must trust, in great measure, to physical signs and his own observation. If "S. H. B." desire more information, I shall be glad to give him the benefit of my experience on his communicating with me.

In addition to the General Hospital, there is a very largely attended Polyklinik, or Out-door Dispensary, where abundant material is found for all medical and surgical cases except midwifery and gynaecology. There is a large children's hospital near the general one.—Yours faithfully,

A. T. BRAND, M.D.

Inver, Driffield.

VACCINATION.

DISAPPOINTED.—The lymph of the National Vaccine Establishment is received from the best of the public vaccinators, and from the three vaccinators who especially act under the instructions of the Local Government Board, two of the latter being engaged at the Animal Vaccine Establishment. This lymph, therefore, ought to be as good as can be obtained. Apart from this, lymph can be procured from most of the public vaccinators by private arrangement, or for a small payment. The mother of a recently vaccinated infant can be induced to allow her child to be taken to our correspondent's house, where vaccination can be done direct. This is the best plan of all.

SELF-TUITION IN FRENCH.

SIR.—I am desirous of learning French, but am so situated that, if I do learn it, it must be by teaching myself. Would any member inform me as to the best books to procure, and the course of study that I should adopt? Is the Hamiltonian a good system to follow in self-teaching?—I am, etc., X. Y. Z.

J. W. B. is referred to the article on Myxœdema, in Quain's *Dictionary of Medicine*, and to Dr. Ord's paper in the *Medico-Chirurgical Transactions* for 1878.

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

Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. F. Simms, London; Mr. S. W. L. Beale, Great Yarmouth; Dr. Markham Skerritt, Bristol; Dr. Dolan, Halifax; Dr. A. W. Stirling, Stapleton; The Secretary of the Chelsea Hospital for Women; Dr. A. W. Orwin, London; Dr. Fothergill, London; Mr. James West, London; Mr. H. Terry, Northampton; Dr. W. Nicholson, Greenwich; Dr. Ward Cousins, Southsea; Mr. E. Kenneth Campbell, London; Mr. D. B. Balding, Royston; Mr. F. B. Jessett, London; Dr. F. Dale, Scarborough; M. O. H.; Dr. L. Hedenstal Ormsby, Dublin; Dr. Arridge, Stoke-on-Trent; Dr. C. C. Scott, Twickenham; Mr. John Walshe, Ballinogroanly; Mr. J. B. Richardson, Torquay; Dr. C. F. Knight, Dublin; Mr. Blackett, London; Mr. F. Phelps, London; Mr. H. Lashmore, Southampton; Mr. T. M. Stone, Wimbledon; Dr. Garson, London; Mr. Howard Marsh, London; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Dr. E. Mills Grace, Thornbury; Mr. W. T. Jackman, Coggeshall; The Medical Superintendent of the Sussex County Asylum, Haywards Heath; Dr. R. Munro, Kilmarnock; Mr. Lennox, Dumfries; The Secretary of the National Health Society; Mr. Lewis Jefferis, Margate; Dr. Ducrot, Paris; Mr. W. Wood, Chelsea; Dr. J. Macpherson, London; Dr. J. Mackenzie Booth, Aberdeen; F. P.; Dr. Prosser James, London; Dr. A. Tucker Wisc, Haute-Engadine; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Surgeon-Major Macleod, London; Mr. J. Wickham Barnes, London; Mr. R. J. Gilbert, London; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Dr. E. H. Sieveking, London; Dr. Herman, London; Our Berlin Correspondent; Dr. Sutherland, London; Dr. Hobson, Harrogate; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; The Secretary of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, London; The Secretary of the Clinical Society, London; Dr. R. E. Carrington, London; Mr. J. A. da Gama, Bombay; Mr. T. G. Lithgow, Farnborough; Mr. Macartney, Dorchester; Dr. B. Foster, Birmingham; Mr. R. Atkinson, Rippendon; Dr. A. Wahltuch, Manchester; Dr. J. Tatham, Salford; Mr. N. F. H. Fitzmaurice, Dunning; Mr. F. H. Kinney, Reading; Dr. D. E. Flinn, Kingstown; Dr. Stevenson, London; Mr. W. Donovan, Birmingham; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Dr. A. N. Macfarlane, Kilmarnock; Dr. Brand, Driffield; Mr. Northland, London; Mr. Victor Horsley, London; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. Vincent Jackson, Wolverhampton; Dr. Norbury, Plymouth; The Honorary Secretaries of the Epidemiological Society; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome, and Co., London; Mr. E. T. Davies, Liverpool; Mr. Gurner, London; Dr. G. Rummo, Naples; Dr. Willoughby, London; Dr. A. B. Great-Rex, Stoke-on-Trent; Mr. C. R. Smith, London; Mr. H. A. Reeves, London; Mr. George Fox, Dublin; Dr. C. A. Knutson, Christiania; Mr. H. Turner, London; Mr. Shirley F. Murphy, London; Dr. Imbach, Liverpool; Dr. C. W. Suckling, Birmingham; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Mr. T. Whipham, London; Mr. Hunter, London; Dr. Braxton Hicks, London; Mr. F. Dodgson, Cockerham; Ignoramus; Mr. J. Vesey Fitzgerald, Birmingham; B. C.; Mr. W. H. B. Vane, Aston, Birmingham; Dr. Ker, Leeds; Our Belfast Correspondent; Dr. A. Eddowes, Market Drayton; Mr. James Edwards, Liverpool; Dr. Neale, London; Mr. Z. Mennell, London; Our Manchester Correspondent; Our Liverpool Correspondent, etc.

BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

A Practical Treatise on Urinary and Renal Diseases. By W. Roberts, M.D., F.R.S. London: Smith, Elder and Co. 1885.

The Bradshaw Lecture on the Pathology of Cancer. By W. S. Savory, F.R.S. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

The Principles and Practice of Gynaecology. By T. A. Emmett, M.D. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

St. Thomas's Hospital Reports. Edited by Dr. S. J. Sharkey and Mr. F. Mason. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1885.

Pulmonary Phthisis. By S. Jacquot. Translated and Edited by M. Lubbock, M.D. London: Kegan Paul and Co. 1885.

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