

SERUM FROM THE ABDOMINAL CAVITY.

SIR,—Anent the note sent by Dr. D. Dickinson of the U. S. Navy to the *New York Medical Record*, and copied into this JOURNAL of December 13th (p. 1217), the following may prove interesting. A patient of mine, a married woman, was tapped by me no less than seventy-eight times, the latter four-fifths of these tapplings giving never less than fourteen quarts—generally fifteen, but occasionally sixteen. Reckoning as an average, say, twelve quarts, at each operation—a very moderate estimate—we have the following figures.

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| Times tapped | 78 |
| Average amount | 24 pints. |
| Amount in pints | 1872 |
| Add one-fourth to get weight .. | 468 |
| | 2340 lbs. |

This is reckoning the serum as of the same specific gravity only as pure water. As 2240 lbs. make one ton, we have, as the weight of the fluid taken out of this poor woman's abdomen, one ton one hundred pounds.

I showed this patient to the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch at the annual meeting of the Branch at Lancaster five years ago, after, I think (for I have misplaced my notes), about the seventieth operation, and three days after the last.—Faithfully yours, sir, J. FARRAR, M.D.
Morecambe.

IGNORAMUS.—We should not recommend our correspondent to place confidence in any of the remedies proposed.

THERMO-CAUTERY OR KNIFE?

SIR,—A patient seeks my help for the terribly distressing condition of inability to retain faeces at will, owing to a large rent of the perineum, which occurred a few years ago. The ordinary cutting operation to restore the integrity of the injured parts has always seemed, to me, serious, tedious, and attended with considerable risk of absorption of septic matter. It seems likely, from what I see of the results of my operations with the thermo-cautery, that this instrument might be most advantageously substituted for the knife, if union of burnt surfaces could be rapidly, or certainly in the end, obtained. The advantages all round would be obvious.

Can any reader tell me if this operation has ever been attempted, and, if so, the result? If it has not been done, I think experiments on the lower animals—of course, under chloroform—might be of great value, and give us the required details as to heat of cautery, and other points most conducive to success.—Yours, etc., ALFRED EDDOWES, M.D.
Market Drayton.

BOOKS ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

MR. A. RANKIN inquires, whether there is such a thing as an English translation of Rilliet and Barthez's *Diseases of Children*, and where he could find an address by the late Professor Samuel Gross, on "Syphilis, Scrofula, and Consumption," read before the American Medical Association in 1875.

. The work by MM. Rilliet and Barthez has never been, so far as we are aware, translated into English. The new edition now in course of publication in France is edited by MM. Barthez and Sauné.

S. EDWARDS should communicate with the registrars of the respective Colleges.

HOMES FOR INVALIDS.

C. C. S.—We have referred the question to Mr. C. S. Loch, the Secretary of the Charity Organisation Society, who has named the following institutions, either of which it is thought would meet our correspondent's requirement; all Hallow's Hospital, Ditchingham, Bungay, Suffolk; St. Peter's Home, Mortimer Road, Kilburn. There is a Home for Chronic Invalids, Alexandra House, Silver Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea; and St. Luke's Home, a small institution managed by Miss Phipps, at 29, Manor Road, Walworth. The payment varies at all these institutions, according to the means of the patient, and also, we believe, to the amount of attention, etc., required.

ERRATA.

IN the JOURNAL of January 31st, page 228, column 1, in line 3 of second paragraph, for "diabetic retinitis" read "diabetic cataract"; in lines 6 and 7 of third paragraph, for "aquæ zvi" read "aquæ Oj." In column 2, between second and third paragraphs from bottom, omit the heading "Hysterical Paralysis," and at the end of the preceding sentence, after "returned," add "being that of hysterical paralysis."

AN APPEAL.

MR. STAMFORD FELCE begs to return thanks to those of our readers who have generously responded to his appeal, which we published in the JOURNAL of December 6th, 1884, page 1172. Enough money has now been raised to place the second orphan son of a surgeon who died in New Zealand, in the Wanstead Orphan Asylum, where his brother has been already admitted. The child's grandmother also desires to express her gratitude to our charitable correspondents.

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

Mr. R. W. Watkins, Towcester; The Secretary of the Pathological Society, London; Mr. J. S. Gilston, Doncaster; Mr. T. M. Macdonald, London; Mr. H. Jefferies, Bridgnorth; Our Dublin Correspondent; Messrs. Vickers, London; Dr. Carrington, London; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Mr. Walter Beevor, Cairo; Mr. G. P. Atkinson, Pontefract; Our Manchester Correspondent; Mr. R. Milne Murray, Edinburgh; Dr. K. R. Macdonald, Cupar, Fife; Dr. Charles Denison, Denver; Mrs. Davey, East Dereham; Dr. Ewart, London; The Secretary of the Local Government Board; Mr. Shannon, St. Mary Cray; Mr. W. J. Spence, Bradford; Mrs. A. M. Longshore Potts, London; Mr. Eustace G. Carter, Bradford; The Alexandra Carriage Works; Mr. O. Lowsley, Reading; The Editor of the *Reading Mercury*; Mr. F. R. Fisher, London; Our Cairo Correspondent; Dr. Athill, Dublin; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Dr. E. M. Cosgrave, Dublin; Mr. P. Warner, Woodford; Sir James Paget, London; Mr. H. A. Powell, Beckenham;

Mr. Stamford Felce, London; Mr. Arthur E. Barker, London; Dr. W. S. Steele, Torquay; Mr. H. N. Oglesby, York; Mr. W. Galbraith, Gosforth; Dr. Ireland, Prestonpans; Mr. C. J. Power, London; Mr. G. A. L. Green, Portsmouth; Mr. W. B. Wall, Pembroke; Mr. C. F. Rideal, London; Mr. W. Collier, Oxford; Dr. A. Robb, Portsea; Mr. L. Cooke, Wigan; Mr. T. Jenner Verrall, Brighton; Mr. T. C. Brown, Tamsui, Formosa; Dr. Huggard, London; Dr. Munro, Kilmarnock; Dr. Junker, London; The Secretary of the Parkes Museum; Dr. J. Thorowgood, London; Dr. Morton Smale, London; Mr. A. W. Mayo Robson, Leeds; Dr. J. Sinclair Holden, Sudbury; Messrs. Baillière, Tindall, and Cox, London; Dr. Cranstoun Charles, Streatham; Mr. C. T. Griffiths, London; Dr. W. Campbell Taylor, Todmorden; The Honorary Secretaries of the Mahomed Memorial Fund; Dr. Campbell Morfit, London; Dr. Thin, London; Dr. R. Power, Portsea; Dr. Styrap, Shrewsbury; Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, Birmingham; Dr. Taylor, Anerley; The Rev. R. A. Dobson, Gipsy Hill; Dr. Norman Kerr, London; Mr. Wm. Cox, Winchcombe; Mr. W. Adams Frost, London; Messrs. Oppenheimer, Brothers, and Co., London; Dr. B. G. Morison, London; Mr. Harry Scott, Manchester; Mr. James Startin, London; Our Rome Correspondent; Messrs. W. H. Bailey and Son, London; The Honorary Secretaries of the Medical Society, London; Dr. Harker, Lancaster; Dr. Jacob, Leeds; Celtic; Messrs. Cassell and Co., London; Colonel Sherinton, London; Mr. J. Philipson, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. E. Downes, Eastbourne; Mr. R. Hallier, Oxford; Mr. James Gibson, Doune, Perth; Mr. Annandale, Edinburgh; Mr. W. Galloway, Dundee; Mr. T. Glover Lyon, London; Mr. W. Duncan, Ottery St. Mary; Mr. John Kendall, Comiston; Mr. H. F. Smyth, Glasgow; Mr. C. B. Keetley, London; Mr. A. De C. Scanlan, Aldershot; Dr. Sheen, Cardiff; Dr. E. T. Tibbits, Bradford; Our Belfast Correspondent; Dr. E. Haughton, Upper Norwood; Mr. S. Edwards, Ludlow; Dr. Balthazar Foster, Birmingham; Dr. T. Vincent Dickinson, London; Dr. Brailey, London; Mr. F. E. Image, Bury St. Edmunds; Mr. Wm. Matthews, Bristol; Dr. J. J. Charles, Cork; Mr. Alfred Keble, Flaxton; Dr. Brown, Wansford; The Honorary Secretaries of the Harveian Society; Mr. Percy Newell, Safron Walden; Mr. J. O'Duffy, Dublin; Mr. J. J. Reynolds, Boxford; Mr. Septimus B. Farr, Andover; Messrs. Poingdestre, Mesnier and Co., London; Dr. Sutherland, London; Dr. E. A. Dingley, Wolverhampton; Mr. H. W. Phillips, Bradford; Mr. H. W. Thorn, Bradford; Mr. Joseph Thompson, Nottingham; Mr. Wm. Berry, Wigan; Our Paris Correspondent, etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Medical Annual and Practitioner's Index. London: H. Kempton. 1885.
Louis Pasteur; His Life and Labours. By His Son-in-Law. Translated from the French by Lady Claud Hamilton. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1885.
On Renal and Urinary Affections. By W. H. Dickinson, M.D., F.R.C.P. In Three Parts. Part III. London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1885.
The Student's Botany. By E. MacDowel, M.D. Dublin: Fannin and Co.
Cholera. By J. M. Cunningham, M.D. Calcutta: Printed by the Superintendent of Government Printing.
One Hundred Years of Publishing, from 1785 to 1885. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers. 1885.
Practical Manual of Diseases of Women and Uterine Therapeutics. By II. Macnaughton Jones, M.D. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1885.
Annals of Surgery. Edited by L. S. Pilcher, M.D., and C. B. Keetley, F.R.C.S. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox.
Aids to the Analysis of Food and Drugs. By H. A. Husband, M.B., C.M. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1885.
Lectures Delivered at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. By R. J. Lee, M.A., M.D. London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1885.
Contributions to the Topographical and Sectional Anatomy of the Female Pelvis. London and Edinburgh: W. and A. K. Johnston. 1885.
The Sabbath for Man. By the Rev. W. F. Crafts, A.M. London and New York: Fund and Wagnall.

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