

CUCAINE IN PROSTATIC DISEASE.

SIR,—I shall feel much obliged if any of your readers can kindly tell me the best way to use cucaine in a case of enlarged prostate, necessitating the use of the catheter nearly every hour. There is also great bearing-down pain and prolapsus of the rectum. The patient is 75 years old. As he lives in the country, he will have to apply it himself. I would be thankful for any suggestion that would benefit the patient, as he has had all the ordinary remedies, and nothing seems to have benefited him except morphine-suppositories.—Yours faithfully,

LEEDS.

SMALL CHILDREN.

SIR,—In answer to Dr. S. J. Scott's inquiry (BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, November 14th), I may tell the following case.

One of my sisters was delivered of twins, both females, in August, 1858, before term. One of these twins weighed about 2½ ounces; her hand, forearm, and arm, could easily pass through my mother's wedding ring—an unusually small one. The other twin weighed twice as much.

Both are still living. The larger one is married, and the mother of two children. She was delivered without great difficulty. The smaller did not marry; she remained small, but she is not a dwarf. She is very strong; her functions are quite right. I do not remember that she has been ever ill, but her catamenia came every third week. Bromide of potassium, taken every day for the week previous to the period, postponed them to the right time.—Yours truly,

A FOREIGN PHYSICIAN.

URIC ACID DIATHESIS.

SIR,—In reply to "L.R.C.P.'s" request for suggestions as to the best dietetic and medicinal treatment for a case of uric acid diathesis, I would state that, in treating cases similar to the one he describes, I have found that the excess of uric acid in the system is diminished by the judicious use of aperients; a daily morning dose of Friedrichshall water is one of the most suitable purgatives. The skin should be stimulated by daily rubbing with cold water, which may (to commence with) be mixed with a fourth part of strong acetic acid. The patient should take plenty of outdoor exercise; he should live sparsely; his food should contain only a limited amount of nitrogenous matter, and he must avoid red and effervescent wines, and malt liquors; but although a spare diet is suitable, he should take frequent small meals. A liberal use of water, or a mildly alkaline mineral water, is of the highest importance. As much as two quarts of pure water may be drunk daily for at least a fortnight with advantage. Its action in promoting the elimination of uric acid, and, at the same time, preventing it forming concretions in the renal tubules, or any part of the urinary tract, is obvious. From eight to ten ounces of water should be drunk at bedtime, and whenever a longer interval than usual has elapsed since the last meal.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES CRAIG, M.B.

THE DURHAM DEGREE.

SIR,—Could any of your readers oblige me with information as to the best books to read for the practitioner's degree of Durham? also as to the class of questions asked, and the nature of the clinical examination?—Yours, etc.,

W. A. R.

INCONTINENCE OF URINE.

IN reply to a "Country Member," I am attending a little girl, aged 7, who, until now, has never retained her urine by night nor day. When first consulted, on November 5th, she was ordered a quarter of a grain of extract of belladonna with a grain of sulphate of zinc three times a day. The belladonna was gradually increased until grain-doses were reached. At the end of three weeks, the nocturnal incontinence had ceased. At the end of four weeks, there continued still frequent escapes by day. Belladonna was now withdrawn, and three minims of liquor strychnie with eight minims of liquor ferri perchloridi substituted. Three weeks more have now expired, and, on seeing the child on December 18th, I was assured that there had been no escape of urine by night, and only twice during the last week in the daytime. She is to continue the medicine. Belladonna seldom disappoints me when carried, for a time, to the maintenance of dilatation of the pupil.—I am, yours obediently,

EDWARD GARRAWAY.

BOOKS FOR THE KYRLE SOCIETY.

SIR,—May I ask for a few lines in your valuable journal to make known a want, which I believe many of your readers would gladly supply, if brought to their notice in your pages?

The Kyrle Society, through its Literature Distribution Branch, has frequent demands made upon it for books on hygiene, anatomy, and kindred subjects, for libraries, for the use of nurses, etc. Many works used by students during the earlier years of their medical studies are, on leaving the hospital, thrown aside or sold for a trifling sum. These would be most valuable to persons who are anxious to study, but have not the means to buy books, and who apply to the Kyrle Society for them. Though, through your columns, I would ask first for works of a scientific character, I may add that all books are welcome, good novels especially so.

Information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Literature Distribution Branch of the Kyrle Society, 14, Nottingham Place, W. I enclose my card, and have the honour to remain, sir, yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE KYRLE SOCIETY.

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BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Vital Statistics. A Memorial Volume from the Reports and Writings of William Farr, M.D., D.C.L., C.B., F.R.S. Edited for the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain. By Noel A. Humphreys. London: Offices of the Sanitary Institute, and Edward Stanford. 1885.

Rome in Winter and the Tuscan Hills in Summer. A Contribution to the Climate of Italy. By David Young, M.C., M.D. London: H. K. Lewis. 1885.

A Manual of Microscopical Technology. By Carl Friedländer. Translated with express permission of the author from the second new and corrected edition. By S. Y. Howell, M.A., M.D. London and New York: Putnam's Sons. 1885.

Psychiatry; a Clinical Treatise of Diseases of the Fore Brain. By Theodor Meynert, M.D. Translated by B. Sachs, M.D. Part I. The Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry of the Brain. London and New York: Putnam's Sons. 1885.

Braithwaite's Retrospect of Medicine. Vol. XCII. July to December, 1885. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. 1885.

Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Catalogue of Pathological Specimens. Vol. IV. Second Edition. By Sir James Paget, Member of the Council of the College, with the assistance of J. F. Goodhart, M.D., and A. H. G. Doran, Fellows of the College.

Proceedings of the Medical Society of London. Vol. VIII. Edited by J. Kingston Fowler, M.D., and J. H. Morgan, F.R.C.S. London: Harrison and Sons. 1885.

Clinical Society of London; Report of Spina Bifida Committee, and its Treatment by the Injection of Mr. Morton's Iodo-Glycerine Solution. Reprinted from Vol. XVIII of the Clinical Society's Transactions. London: Printed by T. E. Adlard. 1885.

In the Watches of the Night. In Eighteen Volumes. Vol. IX. By Mrs. H. Dobell. London: Remington and Co. 1885.

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