

disappeared. Although it was not yet his usual hour for rising, he dressed himself forthwith, and after an examination of the scene of the crime, too largely associated with elocutionary efforts to be exhaustive, he conveyed himself to the nearest police-station, and vented his ire, or would have vented it, if the inspector on duty had not checked him somewhat. Although the proceeding had become a trifle monotonous, all that the police could suggest was that he should fix his plate on in such wise that its removal would involve the removal of a corner, at least, of the house. It was further promised that the policeman on the beat should have special instructions to look after any subsequent plate.

After a day or two, another plate was forthcoming, and, with scientific cunning, the medical man, who was a bit of an electrician in his way, devised an ingenious spring which should ring his night-bell on any attempt being made to tamper with the new, that is to say, the last new, plate. He took a further precaution, in view of his not being in a condition to make immediate chase after the miscreant plate-stealer, in the shape of taking up into his bedroom a liberal allowance of bricks to be used as missiles. Matters went on smoothly now for some time, and the medical man began to think his precautions superfluous. Nevertheless, with the diffidence begotten of the loss of two new plates, he assured himself of the "contacts" and kept the bricks in his bedroom. And events proved his caution to have been opportune, for one night, just as he was dozing off, dreaming that he was attending a confinement, the night-bell commenced ringing, and continued to ring. After a moment's hesitation, he cautiously opened the window of his bedroom which looked out on the deserted street, and saw in the darkness of the night a still darker form, which obscured the plate from his infuriated vision. To seize several bricks, and to shower them on that darker form, was not only the work of a moment, but of a quasi-maniac, to such an extent did his passion blind him; and it was only when the form fell to the ground with a groan that he reflected that, after all, he would scarcely be justified in awarding capital punishment for even so abominable an offence. After discussing the matter with his wife, he decided to go down and see how matters stood, and great was his horror to find that it was the policeman on the beat, who, in his anxiety to ascertain the actual condition of the plate, had given rise to the alarm, and had fallen a victim to his sense of duty. Gently and sadly they took him up, and, after a prolonged course of brandy and water, our policeman came round, but was very badly hurt, and as soon as he recovered his speech, he threatened mischief. It was explained to him that several bricks had become detached, and, unfortunately, fallen just where he was standing; and at the present moment he is reported to be considering, in his bed at the infirmary, whether that version of the fray will or will not hold water.

SEWAGE-FARM THROATS.

A CORRESPONDENT, signing himself S. F., writes to protest against the proposal of the Croydon Town Council to increase the area of the South Norwood Elmers End Sewage Farm. He says that the land is a stiff clay, allowing little or no percolation, and in the summer months the odours arising are most unpleasant. Though it is difficult to prove that the sewage-farm is a cause of disease, yet he has such a number of throat-cases, with spotted tongues, of a bad drainage type (the neighbourhood itself being well drained), and which, from examinations, do not depend upon bad house-drainage, or impure water, or milk, that he attributes these throat-cases to the fact that the Elmers End Road, bordering the farm, is the way into the country, much frequented, and that children loiter and play near the brook draining the farm, the cases principally occurring in children. He suggests that as good a name as any for these throats would be sewage-farm throats. As a proof of his argument, he states that, at the South Norwood end of the farm, about three years since, he had a family with these throats. All the drains had been put in order before taking possession, but he was not satisfied, had all the drains reinspected, and found all the sanitary arrangements perfect. The milk was derived from the occupier's own cow. This family did not regain strength till they were sent away for a long change. In the following year, notwithstanding all that had been done, the same symptoms appeared again, and one child was attacked with severe diphtheria, and died.

Without going fully into the question of the exhalations from a sewage-farm lowering vitality, setting up a ferment in the system which would cause any contagious germ to be rapidly developed, and the ill effects produced by the large damp area, our correspondent considers there is sufficient probable cause of mischief to warn the Local Government Board of the danger of perpetuating and increasing the area of a sewage-farm on any soil within eight miles of London, and in the centre of a populous district.

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

Dr. T. S. Dowse, London; Dr. A. M. Edge, Manchester; Mr. R. Cobb, London; Mr. W. F. Haslam, Birmingham; Mr. R. S. Anderson, Spennymoor; Dr. Waters, Liverpool; Dr. C. A. Duckett, Great Yarmouth; Mr. S. D. Adams, Belfast; Dr. P. H. Mules, Manchester; Mr. T. C. White, London; Mr. Sidney A. Bourton, London; Our Egyptian Correspondent; Mr. G. F. Masterman, Stourport; Dr. F. Simms, London; Mr. W. H. Hughes, Ashton-under-Lyne; The Secretary of the South Indian Branch, Madras; Dr. Fleming, Padiham; Mr. A. H. W. Ayling, London; Mr. William Prowse, Clifton; Dr. M. C. Collins, Nottingham; Dr. H. Barnes, Carlisle; Dr. H. Macindoe, Market Drayton; Mr. W. M. Tollit, Totnes; Dr. Mackey, Brighton; Dr. William Curran, London; Mr. H. A. Allbutt, Leeds; Mr. Y. M. Jones Humphreys, Sheffield, Bedfordshire; Mr. C. J. B. Johnson, Wetherby; Mr. A. Cutfield, Mackay, Queensland; Mr. G. Rendle, London; Our Birmingham Correspondent; Dr. Tatham, Salford; Mr. J. Howell Thomas, Wellingborough; Mr. F. H. V. Grosholz, Towyn; Dr. Senton, London; Dr. J. G. Parsons, Bristol; Dr. J. Sinclair Holden, Sudbury; Dr. N. Kerr, London; Dr. Joseph Rogers, London; Mr. T. Pridgin Teale, Leeds; J. V. H.; Surgeon-General Evatt, Woolwich; Mr. Surtees Sumner, London; Mr. W. J. Lawrie, Ayr; Dr. Martin, Blackburn; Dr. Myrtle, Harrogate; Mr. J. T. Gawthorpe, London; Dr. Sieveking, London; Dr. Noel Paton, Edinburgh; Dr. Christie, Glasgow; Mr. George St. George, Lisburn, Co. Antrim; Mr. Cresswell Baher, Brighton; Dr. Maxwell, Woolwich; Dr. Kinkead, Galway; Dr. T. Churton, Leeds; Mr. J. Quirke, Birmingham; Mr. J. S. Wood,

London; Mr. J. Deans, Bournemouth; Dr. G. H. R. Dabbs, Shanklin; Dr. J. W. Hamill, Manchester; Dr. V. Poulain, London; Mr. John Tanner, London; Dr. Carter, Liverpool; Mr. W. John, Haverfordwest; Mr. Cecil Lyster, London; Mr. Simeon Snell, Sheffield; Mr. Thomas Roberts, London; Mr. C. M. Jessop, London; Mr. C. E. Geoghegan, St. Helena; Mr. T. Jenner Verall, Brighton; Messrs. Ward and Lock, London; Dr. J. W. Miller, London; Mr. W. W. Morris, Clun, Salop; Mr. W. T. Jackman, Coggeshall; Dr. H. Talbot Higginson, Bangor, co. Down; The Secretary of the Parkes Museum, London; Dr. Bourneville, Paris; Mr. J. Dalglish, Trowbridge; Our Paris Correspondent; Dr. J. H. Keeling, Sheffield; Mr. H. Welch, Blackpool; Mr. T. M. Pierce, Manchester; Dr. Thomas Smith, Stockport; Mr. R. Roberts, Blaenau, Festiniog; Mr. H. Addison, London; Mr. Symonds, London; Mr. C. B. Cooper, Liverpool; Dr. B. Chevallier, Ipswich; Mr. H. Peck, Southport; Dr. J. A. Sewell, Folkestone; Mr. T. F. Tannahill, Borsal; Mr. C. D. Palmer, Buxton; Dr. Steven, London; Mr. H. C. Burdett, London; Mr. E. Crockett, Wolverhampton; Mr. L. W. Browne, London; Dr. C. B. Gunn, Peebles; Mr. C. E. Abbott, Baintree; Dr. C. B. Voisey, Chatham; Dr. J. Constable, Leuchars, Fife; Mr. J. Hall, London; Dr. J. W. Moore, Dublin; Mr. J. Bland Sutton, London; Mr. A. H. Boys, Pill, Somerset; Our Aberdeen Correspondent; Mr. E. S. Angove, Rugby; Dr. Mackay, Greenock; Mr. G. P. Francis, Bath; Mr. Cameron, Liverpool; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham; Mr. J. W. Smith, Doncaster; Our Liverpool Correspondent; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Dr. R. Scott Orr, Glasgow; Mr. A. Kirk, Nottingham; Mr. J. Unsworth, Liverpool; Dr. F. Barnes, London; Mr. T. Graham, London; Dr. R. Rentoul, Liverpool; Mr. D. Nicholson, Crowthorne; The Secretary of the Medical Society, London; The Secretary of the Clinical Society, London; Mr. G. F. Broatch, Beverley; Mr. J. H. Gray, London; Mr. A. Hill Griffith, Manchester; Dr. W. Saul, Lancaster; Mr. R. J. H. Scott, Bath; Mr. E. M. Hoops, Wrexham; Our Dublin Correspondent; Mr. George Eastes, London; Mr. T. Henry Ashworth, Halstead, Essex; Mr. T. F. Raven, Broadstairs; The Secretary of the Statistical Society, London; Mr. St. Vincent Mercier, London; Mr. William C. Grant, London; Dr. W. Macfie Campbell, Liverpool; Mr. F. C. Bury Rusholme, Manchester; Dr. John Shea, Reading; Mr. C. H. D. Scott, Anerley; Mr. T. Graham, London; Dr. John Lowe, London; The Editor of *The Christian Million*, London; Dr. A. T. Brett, Watford; Dr. Stirling, Aberdeen; Mr. J. J. Merriman, London, etc.

BOOKS, etc., RECEIVED.

Treatise on Gout and Rheumatic Gout. By A. Meldon. Tenth Edition. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. Dublin: Fannin and Co. 1886.
Remarks upon the Epidemic of Measles Prevalent in Sunderland, with Notes upon 31 Cases from the middle of January to the middle of March. By Harry Drinkwater, M.D. Edinburgh: James Thine. 1885.
The Optical Manual; or, Handbook of Instruction. By Surgeon-General Longmore. Third Edition. London: Clowes and Co. 1886.
Insomnia, and other Disorders of Sleep. By H. M. Lyman, A.M., M.D. London: Trübner and Co. 1886.
Puerperal Convalescence, and the Diseases of the Puerperal Period. By Joseph Kuehler, M.D. London: Trübner and Co. 1886.
Hospital Sisters and their Duties. By Eva C. E. Lückes. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1886.
Seventh Annual Report of the State Board of Health of Illinois. 1885.
Clinical Lectures on the Diseases of Women. By Dr. J. Matthews Duncan, M.D. Third Edition. London: J. and A. Churchill. 1886.
St. Bartholomew's Hospital Reports. Vol. XXI. 1885. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1886.
The Two Foundations of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. By W. Marrant Baker, F.R.C.S. London: Smith, Elder, and Co. 1886.
Book-keeping, with Charts, etc. By Joseph Hall, A.C.A. London: Good and Sons. 1886.
Burdett's Official Intelligence for 1886. By Henry C. Burdett. London: Spottiswoode and Co.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

Seven lines and under	..	..	..	..	..	£0 3 6
Each additional line	..	..	..	..	..	0 0 4
A whole column	..	..	..	..	..	1 15 0
A page	..	..	..	..	..	5 0 0

An average line contains eight words.

When a series of insertions of the same advertisement is ordered, a discount is made on the above scale in the following proportions, beyond which no reduction can be allowed.

For 6 insertions, a deduction of	..	..	..	10 per cent.
„ 12 or 13 „	..	..	..	20 „
„ 26 „	..	..	..	25 „
„ 52 „	..	..	..	30 „

For these terms, the series must, in each case, be completed within twelve months from the date of first insertion.

Advertisements should be delivered, addressed to the Manager, at the Office, not later than noon on the Wednesday preceding publication; and, if not paid for at the time, should be accompanied by a reference.

Post-Office Orders should be made payable to the British Medical Association, at the West Central Post-Office, High Holborn. Small amounts may be paid in postage-stamps.